



CHURCH OF NIGERIA
(ANGLICAN COMMUNION)
PROVINCE OF NIGER DELTA
DIOCESE OF EVO


**ADULT
SUNDAY SCHOOL
MANUAL**
for 2017

THEME
**ATTITUDES AND
ROLE RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE NEW MAN**



FOREWORD



Beloved people of God, it is a new year, a year of great expectations, and we are greatly delighted to present to you this 2017 edition of our adult Sunday school manual. Our theme for this year is "Attitudes and Role Relationships of the New Man", and it is a purposeful blend of the themes of two of our most important Diocesan programmes in 2016, viz; Discipleship/Revival Conference and Diocesan Synod.

We have, through the past years of our existence as a Diocesan community, been spurred and sustained in our Teaching/Discipleship ministry by a very deep sense of commitment to ensuring a wholesome edification of the Church and all of God's children whom He so graciously committed to our charge, and it is this which has informed and driven us in our passion for systematic impartation of the undiluted scriptural doctrines, disciplines and exemplary Christian conducts which should enable us all to shine forth as the light of Christ in our highly corrupt and depraved society. We have always believed in the maxim that Christianity is a way of life, and not just one of the world's religions, and that the genuine Christian life is that fashioned after the principles and practices enunciated and modeled by our Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ.

This year's adult Sunday school theme should accord us the enabling platform for easy and effective conveyance of the knowledge of an urgent need for all bona fide kingdom citizens of our Diocesan extraction to imbibe and model the appropriate Christian virtues in whatever relationships we find ourselves in society. We believe that the world is going the way it is today because we in the church seem to have lost our saltiness and have either kept our lamp under the bushel, or have had the light extinguished in our hustling after worldliness.

As we clearly opined in our charge at the 1st session of the 3rd Synod of our Diocese in August 2016, we still maintain, with a strong sense of responsibility, that relationship is the pivot of the Christian faith, and it is this which gives it the unique spiritual fervour that sets it in a class quite different from other religions. It is our fervent desire that this Church shall, through conscientious teaching and discipleship classes, build a community of faith whose membership shall constitute of men and women, adults and youths, whose lives in the various units, spheres and echelons of society shall be Christ-like in thought, speech and conducts. There is no gainsaying that the Church, families and society will have innumerable testimonies of restored peace and harmonious relationships to share in the event of such palatable development.

We have painstakingly perused the pages of this study manual and have no qualms in commending it for use in the weekly Sunday school classes across the Diocese. It is, however, important to note that all the time, efforts and resources committed to this noble work will amount to a colossal waste if the manual is not put to proper use. We are therefore constrained to here reiterate our existing charge that Sunday school remains an indispensable part of our Sunday services, and that, at least, one hour should be allotted to it in the service programmes. Sunday school teachers should awaken from their slumber and brace up for greater relevance and more profitable ministry as they commit themselves to personal and corporate preparatory sessions in prayer and study before standing out to teach others.

Now to Him who is able to keep us from falling, and to present us without blemish before the presence of His glory with joy, to the only God, our Saviour through Jesus Christ our Lord be glory, majesty, dominion and authority before all time and now and forever. Amen

+Ordu




PREFACE



The 2017 adult Sunday School theme “Attitudes and Role Relationships of the New Man” is a confluence of the themes of the two important programmes of our Diocese in 2016, the Discipleship/Revival Conference and the Synod. It is apparent from the wordings of this theme that it was borne out of a strong yearning in the heart of our Bishop, Rt. Rev'd Innocent Uchekukwu Ordu, JP, for wholesome edification of members of our Diocesan community whose lives should model exemplary Christian conducts at the various spheres and strata of the society, especially in families, businesses, careers, neighborhoods, and the church.

We live in a period where it appears that as churches spring up daily in multiples, crimes and other societal vices progress geometrically, so much so that the Church appears to have lost that essential spiritual unction to function as society's moral rudder. Consequently, while churches are packed full with those who profess Christ and appear captivated by the Word of God preached and taught from various formal and informal pulpits which dot society, feelers from the various families, offices, communities and churches indicate strongly that the very same 'strong church members who shout, quake and moan at church meetings and ministrations have very little or virtually nothing to offer society in terms of positive testimonies given the ways and manners they conduct themselves across society.

It is in recognition of this ugly scenario that the Bishop seeks to, through these studies, impress upon all Diocesan faithful the urgent need for genuine regeneration experiences across the rank and file of the Diocesan community so that through our lives, confessions and conducts, Christ would be modelled for the ultimate benefits of the various relationships in which we find ourselves in society.



For the purpose of these studies, the new man is that inward man recreated in righteousness and true holiness and renewed in knowledge after the image of Jesus Christ. That is the genuine portrait of every bona fide Christian. It is therefore expected that most of those who sit on our churches' pews for worship should have experienced that genuine spiritual transformation which qualifies us for the new life in Christ Jesus. Unfortunately, the reverse seems to be the case, and that is partly what this year's Sunday school theme seeks to redress.

There are 7 sub themes, each of which contains study topics designed to help dissect essential areas of the theme, and there are 52 studies in all, covering the 52 weeks in the year. It is therefore expected that, except in very extreme cases, Sunday school classes should be regular part of our Sunday services. It is hoped that as Churches progress in these studies, there should be manifest evidences of positive attitudinal changes, especially in the way we relate with each other and with others anywhere anytime.

We advise that, to obtain optimal benefits from these studies, teachers should ensure consistent prayerful preparations ahead of every Sunday School class, during which grey areas and other sensitive issues which could derail or hamper fruitful study flow are resolved. We pray that as we partner with the Holy Spirit in our teaching ministry this year, our Churches would be impacted in a manner that all ailing relationships involving our members shall experience healing and restoration.

Rev. Samson O. Abada
ASSDLPM Chaplain I



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DIOCESE OF EVO QUARTERLY PRAYER POINTS.

PRAYER POINTS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER

1. Appreciate the Lord for His Mercy, faithfulness and Grace upon the life of our Bishop and family.
2. Thank God for all his plans and promises for your life and family in the year 2017.
3. Pray for the Niger Delta Provincial Council and Women executive Committee meeting that will hold in our Diocese on Wednesday 1st – Thursday 2nd February. Pray and ask the Lord for the safe arrival of all delegates within our Province. Pray that the Holy Spirit will influence every detail of each session in the meeting, and that all decisions that will be taken will establish the will of God in our Province.
4. Pray for the inauguration of the Diocesan Ecumenical Team on Saturday 4th February at the Chapel of Refuge, Bishop's Court. Ask that the Lord will empower them and use them to His glory.
5. Our annual Churches' Vestry meeting for all Station Churches, Parishes, Cathedral, Deaneries and District Churches will hold on Sun. 12th, 19th, and 26th February. Pray that the wrong persons will not occupy any leadership position in our churches. Let the Lord give us men and women after His own heart.
6. Church of Nigeria Standing Committee meeting will hold at Diocese of Egba on Monday 20th – Sunday 26th February. Pray that the Lord will guide and direct all the deliberations and decisions that will be taken. Pray for journey mercies for all the delegates.
7. The clergy/teacher's wives will be going for a Retreat at Adonai Retreat Centre in Iriebe on Friday 24th – Sunday 26th. Pray that the retreat will be a time of spiritual refreshment and great encounter in the God's Presence.
8. Pray for the Church of Nigeria St. Matthias offering Day and fund raising on Sunday 26th February. Pray that God will move the hearts of people to give generously towards God's work.
9. Pray for the 3 days Evangelism Summit that will hold at St. Philip's Orogwe on Thursday 2nd – Saturday 3rd March. Tell the Lord to rekindle the fire for Soul winning in the hearts of the participants.
10. Women's world day of prayer holds on Friday 3rd March in all our Churches. Pray that this programme will enjoy mass attendance by our women and that the Lord will do great things as they pray.
11. Pray for the success of the Church of Nigeria Prayer Convocation holding at Ajayi Crowther University Oyo on Monday 6th – Friday 10th March. Pray that the Lord will grant journey mercies to all the participants and let the Heaven be opened over the Convocation.
12. Pray for this year's post Diocesan vestry meeting/ training/workshop/Evangelism summit from 15th - 18th, March. Pray that God will use this meeting to empower His people to serve Him better.
13. Pray for this year's edition of Evo family/meeting in all our Churches holding from Wednesday 15th – Saturday 18th March. Pray and ask the Lord to visit our families as we gather during the programme.
14. Pray for the Mothering Sunday week of activities that will hold in all our Churches on Monday 20th – 26th March. Ask that the name of the Lord will be glorified in all that the Women will do.
15. Pray for our on the Highways and Hedges that will start on Monday 27th March – Sunday 2nd April. Ask the Lord to give us Harvest of Souls in our Churches as we go out to Evangelize.
16. Our Diocesan First Mega Night Vigil holds on Friday 31st March at St. Nicholas, Woji. Pray that the Heaven will be opened unto everyone in that Vigil.

JANUARY 2017

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

CHURCH OF NIGERIA QUARTERLY PRAYER DAY

PRAYER POINTS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER

1. Thank God for making it possible for us to see this year.
2. Thank God for His love and care for us and our families.
3. Thank God for Church leaders especially our Primate, Archbishops and Bishops in Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) and pray for God's continual grace upon them.
4. Thank God for our Nation Nigeria and her leaders. Pray that the Spirit of God will take hold of them to achieve His purpose.
5. Thank God for the establishment of Anglican Cable Network Nigeria. Pray for the management team, its sustenance and for positive impact on viewers.
6. Pray for successful accomplishment of the project of the Church of Nigeria set for this year particularly the National Secretariat, Apo, Abuja.
7. Pray against every spirit of manipulation working against your health, business and career.
8. Pray and ask that all secrets of the enemy in the camp of your life that are still in the darkness, be revealed to you in Jesus name.
9. Pray against all evil spirits planning to trouble you.
10. Pray and ask that all keys to your goodness that are still in the possession of the enemy be released to you.
11. Pray and ask for God's direction that will propel you to greatness in life and ministry.
12. Pray and cancel sudden death in your family this year.





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T H E M E :

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN
.(1TIM. 3:15, 2THESS. 3:7)



SUB THEME S A:

INTRODUCTORY
STUDIES



STUDY 1

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

INTRODUCTORY
STUDIES

TOPIC:

ATTITUDES
AND
BEHAVIOUR

TEXT:

MATTHEW 25; 14-30,
PHILIPPIANS 2; 5-8

AIM:

To help participants understand the concepts of attitudes and behavior, distinguish one from the other, and relate them to the life of an average believer in Christ Jesus.

INTRODUCTION

Attitude has been defined by Dr Myles Munroe of blessed memory as “the mind-set or mental conditioning that determines our interpretation of and response to our environment. In his words, “attitude creates your world and determines your destiny.”

In his Presidential Address/Bishop's Charge at the 1st Session of the 3rd Synod of the Diocese of Eyo, the Rt. Revd. Innocent U. Ordu, JP, defined attitude simply as “an inward feeling expressed by outward behavior.”

Behaviour is an action or reaction that occurs in response to an event or internal stimuli.' Behaviour usually reflects established beliefs and attitudes, but may also be a result of social pressure.

In the Parable of the Talents, it is evident that the third servant's action (burying the one talent he received) was an outward expression of his inner feelings about his master (Matt. 25; 24,25). We may gain a deeper understanding as we proceed in this study.

STUDY GUIDE

1. With practical examples from everyday life experiences, explain what you understand by attitudes and behavior, Matt. 25; 24,25, Gen. 25; 29-34, Heb. 13; 5, Phil. 2; 5-8.
 - b) In the light of the above scriptures, how will you differentiate attitudes from behavior?
 - c) How does attitude affect behavior?
2. Behaviour can be influenced by a number of other factors beyond attitude or mind-set. Explain how the following can do so;
 - a) monetary factors, John 12; 4-6
 - b) social influences, like peer group, neighbourhood, 1 Cor. 15; 33
 - c) convenience, Gen. 25; 29-34
3. In the light of Matt. 25; 24,25, identify and discuss some of the negative attitudes which pervade our local churches and how they affect our actions and reactions towards the things of God and other brethren.
 - b) How can these unwholesome attitudes and behaviour be redressed?

CONCLUSION

People's attitudes or mind-sets influence their actions and reactions (behavior), and that includes the way they relate with their immediate and remote environment. It is important to note, however, that the Gospel has the power to alter positively our perceptions and overall responses to stimuli.

MEMORY VERSE

Phil. 2;5 (NCV), "In your lives, you must think and act like Jesus."

EXAMINE YOURSELF:

What is it that drives your life?



STUDY 2

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

INTRODUCTORY
STUDIES

TOPIC:

WHO IS A
NEW MAN?

TEXT:

2 CORINTHIANS 5; 17,
EPPHESIANS 4; 22-24,
COLOSSIANS 3; 9,10

AIM:

To help the brethren understand the true concept of the new man and the expectations of God and man concerning his life.


INTRODUCTION

The new man is one who is in Christ (2 Cor. 5; 17). It is the inward man recreated in righteousness and true holiness and renewed in knowledge after the image of Jesus Christ. The scriptural picture of the new man is that of one who has undergone a transformational process during which the “old man” stepped aside to pave way for a brand new life anchored on simple faith in Christ Jesus.

STUDY GUIDE

1. In your own words, explain what you understand by the phrase “the new man.” 2 Cor. 5; 17, Col. 3; 9,10, Eph. 4; 22-24.
2. What is the true identity of the new

man? Refer to the scripture cited above, and also, Tit. 3; 4,5.

- 
3. How would you relate the scriptures, 1 Cor. 5; 7 and Matt. 9; 17 to the subject under study?
 4. What are the factors that help a believer to grow, mature and exhibit consistently the true character of the new man? Eph. 4; 17-24, 1 Pet. 2; 1,2, Gal. 5; 16, Prov. 3; 6,7

CONCLUSION

It is apparent that the new man is one who has experienced the new birth. He does not necessarily need to blow his trumpet but is inadvertently advertised by the life he lives.

MEMORY VERSE:

2 Cor. 5; 17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, old things have passed away, behold all things have become new."

EXAMINE YOURSELF:

Where would you truly place yourself, the new or the old?



STUDY 3

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

INTRODUCTORY
STUDIES

TOPIC:
ATTITUDES
OF THE
NATURAL MAN

TEXT:
EPHESIANS 2; 1-3,
GALATIANS 5; 19-21

AIM:

Brethren should be able to define the old man from scriptural perspectives, identify his characteristic features and the consequences of operating at this state.


INTRODUCTION

The Apostle Paul uses the word natural to refer to someone who is still in his original, natural state, whose life is not yielded to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. He lacks the Spirit of God and, consequently, operates entirely by human wisdom and is generally influenced by the fleshly passions, desires, appetites and sensory reflexes.

STUDY GUIDE

1. Who is the natural man, and what are the characteristic features of this state of being? Eph. 2; 2,3, Gal. 5; 19-21, Col. 3; 5,8
2. What actually drives the natural man's actions and reactions to stimuli

in any given environment, including the church? Cf. 1 Cor. 2; 14

- 
3. Explain from the following scriptures some definite steps the natural man should take if he must attain and sustain spiritual regeneration. John I; 12, Acts 2; 37-47
 4. Remaining on this natural state has very serious consequences for those concerned, whether they are church folks or unchurched, Discuss. Gal. 5; 19-21, Rev. 21; 8.

CONCLUSION

The Church is obviously a mixed multitude- the natural, the carnal, and the spiritual. Whichever side of these states one finds oneself clearly pictures the kind of mind-set or attitude they carry about. Unfortunately, there are disturbing indications that a vast majority of the members in most of our local churches are still comfortably reclining in the natural state, and this has very ugly consequences.

MEMORY VERSE

Acts 2; 31, "Then Peter said to them, repent, and let everyone of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Can you truly say you have been regenerated?

STUDY 4

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

INTRODUCTORY
STUDIES

TOPIC:

ATTITUDES, NEW
VS
OLD MAN

TEXT:

EPH 4:17-24 ; COL 3:1-4;
10-14 ; PROV 4:23; IS 26:3,
ROM 12:1-3

AIMS:

Highlight the fact that a new mindset is needed for the new man and discuss the impact of this new mindset.

INTRODUCTION

It is apparent from previous studies that our attitude reflects our human nature and is a mind-set built over the years through formal and informal education, personal observations, and other experiences in the environment in which we grew up. Our attitude affects the way we think or feel about our immediate and remote environments and, consequently, influences our actions, reactions and responses, positively or negatively, toward a certain idea, object, person, or situation.

We learn from the scriptures that we all carry about us two opposing natures- the old and the new. The old nature (or old man) is that which is patterned

after Adam and is a darkened or unregenerate mind-set, contrary to the life of God and, therefore, in enmity with Him. On the other hand, the new man (or new nature) is a

7 regenerated mind-set, patterned after Christ, spiritually minded, loves God, and is anchored on godly principles.

These two natures are always at war with each other, and whichever side that is winning at any point in our lives is clearly reflected in the way we think, speak, act and respond to life's issues, incentives and rewards. Yet it is imperative that upon the new birth, the old must be completely discarded so the new can enjoy an uninterrupted reign in the believer's life. What does the scripture command us to do. That is the focus of our study today.

STUDY GUIDE

- 1a. What do you understand by the terms “Old man” and “New Man”?
- b. What other terms does the Bible use to describe the “old man”? Rom. 8; 5-8
2. What do the following scriptures tell us about the attitudes or mind-set of the Old and New Man? Rom 8: 5-8 (GNB), Col 1:21, Eph 4:17-24
3. Why is there need for a radical transformation of attitude (mind-set) in the New Man? Lk 5:36-39; Rom 12:1-2; Col 3:1-4; Prov 4:23.
4. What manner of change in attitude is required for the New man in the following areas?
 - a. Mind-set about God (legalism, mysticism) Col 2:16-23;
 - b. Mind-set about others (service, need to please, suspicion) Col 3:8-14
 - c. Mind-set about myself (personal ambition, reputation) Phil 2: 3-9



- d. Mind-set about things (materialism, addiction) 2 Cor 4:18
 - e. Mind-set about situations (worry, fear, panic)
5. What will be the impact of this change in attitude in the New Man. Is 26:3; Phil 4:8-9; Col 3:10-14

CONCLUSION

Despite his very deep spirituality, Apostle Paul humbly declares, “For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) dwelleth no good thing” (Rom 7:18a). This applies to every Christian. However, where the Spirit of Christ is allowed a free and wholesome reign in a believer's life, the unregenerate mind-set is rendered redundant and worthless while the transformed mind-set is set at liberty as it begins to express a deep passion for God and for whatever would gladden and endear us to Him..

MEMORY VERSE

Eph. 4: 22,23, “.....put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts and be renewed in the spirit of your mind”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Have you experienced a transformation of your mind-set since you believed?



STUDY 5

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

INTRODUCTORY
STUDIES

TOPIC:

ROLE RELATIONSHIPS,
**NEW
VS
OLD MAN**

TEXT:

EPHESIANS 4; 1-3,
MATTHEW 5; 13-16

AIM:

To help brethren understand the need to consistently reflect the scriptural characteristics of the new man in executing our assigned roles in the various

INTRODUCTION

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines roles as socially expected behaviour pattern usually determined by an individual's status in a particular society, it also defines it as a part that someone or something has in a particular activity or situation. Role relationship is defined as aspects of a relationship consisting of the reciprocal role expectations of each person towards the other.

Every facet of the human society, organization, or group has role prescriptions peculiar to them, and those who form part of them are expected to conform to the prescribed or expected relationship behaviour patterns.

Failure by members to live up to their role responsibilities sends very wrong signals across the group and impacts very negatively on the entire body.

The focus of this study is to analyse some of the role responsibilities vested in us by aspects of the society and to determine to what extent our new identity “in Christ” should impact how we conduct ourselves in whatever relationships we find ourselves.

STUDY GUIDE

- 1a. With practical examples, explain what you understand by the phrase “role relationships?”
- b. What traditional roles and status do we have in the following settings: the home, the church, the community, the workplace?
2. Discuss how negative value changes in the society we live affects the roles we play in these settings, especially the home and the Church
3. Identify from the following scriptures the attitudinal traits which clearly distinguish the new man from the old man in their role relationships at the various spheres of society: Col. 3; 5-14, Eph. 5; 21-6; 9, 1 Tim. 2; 9-11, 1 Pet. 2; 11-19
4. “.....Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven” Matt. 5; 13-16. How would you analyse this scripture in light of the subject of study?
5. With the rising incursion of extreme liberalism into the Church, it is becoming increasingly difficult for some Christians to truly discern the fundamental Christian virtues and relationship responsibilities from the “trashy gospel messages” which pervade the pulpits and the airwaves. What should the new man



do to maintain the faith and remain a worthy ambassador of the kingdom of heaven in the face of this ugly trend? Isa. 60; 1, Matt.5; 16, Gal. 5; 16, 2Tim.2; 15,16, Eph. 4; 1

CONCLUSION

Every tree is known by its fruits” is a divine maxim which affirms the clear divide between the attitude of the new man in his role relationships and whatever it was before his new birth experience. This is to say, in other words, that the transformed mind-set which now orders the new man's perceptions, actions and responses to other stakeholders in whatever relationship he finds himself- at home, the church, business, career, etc- would naturally chip off and smoothen whatever rough edges that could otherwise mar such relationships. It also becomes apparent upon the new birth experience that some of the traditional societal values and mores are in utter conflict with the established scriptural standards and must therefore be set aside so the new man can fully express the traits which are in consonance with the kingdom life and principles

MEMORY VERSE

Eph. 4; 1; “I.....beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Are you representing the kingdom of God well in your role relationships?





THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN
(1TIM. 3:15, 2THESS. 3:7)



SUB THEME B:

THE CHARACTER
OF THE
NEW MAN



STUDY 6

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

THE CHARACTER
OF THE
NEW MAN

TOPIC:

BLESSEDNESS
OF BEING
POOR IN SPIRIT

TEXT:

MATTHEW 5:3,
ISAIAH. 57:15,
LUKE 18:10-14

AIM:

To help participants understand what it means to be poor in spirit and why that is an indispensable key for access into the kingdom of God.

INTRODUCTION

The world has its own idea of blessedness. Blessed is the man who is always right. Blessed is the man who is satisfied with himself. Blessed is the man who is strong. Blessed is the man who rules. Blessed is the man who is rich. Blessed is the man who is popular. Blessed is the man who enjoys life. These are the beatitudes of this present world.

The “beatitudes” has been severally described as principles of the kingdom or the character of the kingdom citizens. In it our Lord Jesus declares to those who would follow Him(His disciples) the character traits that will mark out those who belong to His Kingdom.

The first of these character traits is the focus of our study today. We will be looking at what it means to be poor in spirit and why due recourse to this particular trait is a must for all who crave for access into and genuine citizenship of the kingdom of God.

STUDY GUIDE

1. Read Mat 5:3 from different versions of the Bible and explain what you understand by the term 'poor in spirit'? Ps 70:5; Rev 3:17; Isa. 64:6.
2. Christ says the poor in spirit are blessed because theirs' is the kingdom of heaven. Use the following passages to explain what this means? Psal. 34:18, Isa. 57:15, Isa. 66:1-5
3. a. Why do you think our Lord Jesus kicked off the sermon on the mount with this particular beatitude? Rom 3:10,23. b. Of what significance is this beatitude to the new man; Rom 7:18; Mat 9:10-13; Mat 11:28
4. What do these first beatitudes tell us about the difference between the way the new man finds happiness and that of the natural man?

CONCLUSION

The Greek word 'ptochos' translated as poor in our key text means a beggar, one who absolutely depends on charity. That is the true picture of the new man who, in relation to God, lives a life of perpetual dependence. He is like a beggar who begs you today and tomorrow is still ready to beg you again because he knows his sufficiency in life is never of himself. A man who, like David, has this attitude is always looking up to God in prayer, Psal. 121.

MEMORY VERSE

Mat 9:12, "But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick."

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Are you really poor in spirit?



STUDY 7

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

THE CHARACTER
OF THE
NEW MAN

TOPIC:

THE BLESSEDNESS OF
MOURNING

TEXT:

MATTHEW.5:4;
1 PETER.5:8-11

AIM:

To explain the meaning of mourning as used by Christ; identify some of the situations or circumstances in our world and Church today that should make the Christian to mourn, and to motivate us to embrace this virtue in our character formation as Christians.

INTRODUCTION

To 'mourn' as used by Christ in our text is to grieve over a situation or circumstance; to express deep concern and unhappiness (as opposed to a nonchalant and uncaring attitude), usually out of godly jealousy. It could be about us (as individuals) or others. This study should be a measurement instrument which should help us to examine our lives as Christians.

STUDY GUIDE

1. What is the meaning of 'mourning', and how would you explain its use by Christ in this context of Matt. 5:4?
2. Explain the biblical concept of mourning further, from these texts, taking note of the different forms of its expression: Joshua 7:4-10; Neh. 1:1-4; 2

Kings 18:17-37 (taking note of v37); 2 Sam.11:7-11; Esther 4:1-4; Matt.23:37

3. Identify some of the situations or circumstances in our society and Church today that should make the Christian mourn.
4. Weighed against the background of what is identified in number three above, what is your assessment of the attitude of Christians today, especially in this age where Comedians are now invited as special guests for entertainment purposes in the Church?
5. What can sustain us as Christians in the face of glaring increase in godlessness and worldliness both within the Church and circular society? 1 Peter 5:8; Daniel 12:32

CONCLUSION

Christian mourning is a form of suffering for Christ and His Kingdom. Comedy may have little value, yet it is not everything that a Christian should joke about. We are expected to be always sober and vigilant so that the enemy does not take us unawares. More importantly, we need to have solid convictions to be able to firmly resist evil even in our grief over same.

MEMORY VERSE

1Peter 5:8 “And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

How sober are you as a Christian? Do you solid convictions about the faith?



STUDY 8

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

THE CHARACTER
OF THE
NEW MAN

TOPIC:

THE BLESSEDNESS OF
BEING MEEK

TEXT:

MATTHEW 5:5

AIM:

To explain meekness; help us understand what it means; and examine the Church today in the light of this virtue, with a view to motivating us to embrace same in our character formation as Christians today.

INTRODUCTION

This study is about meekness. To be meek is to refrain from using or exercising one's power, authority, right or privileges to hurt or damage others, especially where such are at one's mercy, because of the position we hold and enormity of the power or influence we wield. Usually, a meek person is not harsh and is always calm because he does not respond to issues, circumstances or situations based on his strength, power or position. Jesus is the perfect example here. We should use this study to examine our lives in the light of God's word.

Meek people are not grabbers. They are not schemers. They don't use

their powers, authority, position or influence to hurt other people. They are not overbearing, and are not high handed. They have respect for the dignity and worth of others, no

matter how low such might be. You can probably mention more. Such was Jesus Christ, the Apostle Paul and most other New Testament figures.

STUDY GUIDE

1. From your own view point, explain the term, meekness, and who a meek person is (take a second look at the introduction before attempting your explanation).
2. From the following Bible texts, identify the meek, and explain its meaning. Num.12:1-7; Isaiah 42:3; Matt.11:28-29; 1 Cor.9:11-12; 2 Cor. 11:7-9; 12:13; 1 Pe.2:23
3. From what we have seen and known about meekness thus far, how would you assess the Church today in terms of this godly virtue?
4. To be meek is to be a weak person'! Why do you think our world and even some section of the Church tend to have this erroneous view about meek people, by their actions?
5. Our system or society tends to take advantage of meek people'! If this is true, what motivation do the Christian have to still practice the virtue of meekness? Num.12:1-7; Matt.5:5; 11:28-29



CONCLUSION

Though meekness is similar to humility, the two virtues are different. The fact also remains that if somebody has one, he would most likely also have the other. In other words, meek people are also humble and vice versa. Generally speaking, humble and meek people do not show off, are not loud, and are quite often perceived as weak. But In actual fact, they are strong because their strength and sufficiency is in God. That is why it is 'the Meek that will inherit the earth'. This statement of Christ actually shows us that whereas it is the general perception of people that the world is for the strong, in God's kingdom value, it is quite the opposite.

The virtue of humility and meekness is really in short supply in the Church today, and it is most unfortunate. It also goes to show the extent to which the Church has become more like the world in contrast to the new man as revealed in the New Testament. Sad!

MEMORY VERSE

Isa. 42:3, "He will not break a crushed blade of grass or put out even a weak frame. He will truly bring justice."

EXAMINE YOURSELF

What about you? Are you a meek person?



STUDY 9

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

THE CHARACTER
OF THE
NEW MAN

TOPIC:

HE BLESSEDNESS OF
HUNGERING AND
THIRSTING AFTER
RIGHTEOUSNESS

TEXT:

MATTHEW.5:6;
PSALM 42:1; 107:9

AIM: To explain what it means to hunger and thirst after righteousness; examine the danger of losing this otherwise normal state as Christians; and examine ourselves in the light of this virtue, with a view to motivating us to pursue, cultivate or recover same today.

INTRODUCTION

Most of us, if not all, have been hungry and thirsty before at one time or the other. There is a very irresistible urge that crave for satisfaction in the person who is hungry or thirsty. If the abnormal situation occurs in which someone happens to be having a challenge at getting hungry, such a person would need medical attention. But that is purely physical. However, it is much the same for spiritual hunger which Jesus is addressing in Matt.5:6. 'Hungering and thirsting after righteousness' was Christ's way of describing sustained passion or hunger for God.

In this study, we should see ourselves as undergoing examination about hunger for

righteousness. If at the end of the study we see ourselves

doing well 'in health' on the scale of scripture, we should give God the glory, and work at never allowing that state to slip. But if the contrary is the case, we should be humble enough to seek help from the Lord because that would mean we are fatally ill in the spirit!

STUDY GUIDE

- 1a. From our texts, explain in your own words what it means to hunger and thirst after righteousness. (b) Is it possible for one to be a genuine Christian and yet not be hungry and thirsty after righteousness?
2. From the following texts, identify the persons who can be described as hungering and thirsting after righteousness, and how they demonstrated it: Psalm 42:1; Dan.3:14-18; 6:10; John 2:14-17; Acts 21:13; Heb.11:4; 24-26; Phil.3:7-14.
3. What 'blessedness' or advantage is there in 'thirsting after righteousness' (sustained passion for Christ)? Prov.14:34; Dan.3:24-30; 6:22; Ps.34:17, 19; Prov.12:28; Matt.5:6.
4. Looking at the Church today, would you say 'thirst after righteousness' is one of the things we are most zealous about? If no, why is this so? Consider these scriptures: Prov. 27:7; Luke 10:40-42; 2 Timothy 4:10; Phil.3:18-21
5. What is the danger in losing one's zeal or passion for God as Christians? Eze. 18:24-26; Luke 9:62; Heb.10:38-39



CONCLUSION

Thirsting after righteousness should be a normal experience for every genuine Christian. But if it is not, it just might be a diagnosis pointing to some more serious spiritual ailment. After all, dead people or those in some very critical health condition do not experience hunger!

Again, just as the satisfied person hates to eat or drink, so it is in the realm of the spirit. If someone is already satisfied with some other thing, most likely of worldly appeal, there is no way he/she can at the same time be hungry and thirsty for righteousness. But let the same person be full of God in Christ, even the bitter experiences of life will still be sweet as the great teacher has said in Prov. 27:7. The blessedness of hunger and thirst for righteousness is sufficient encouragement for us, just as no one would like to test God's resolve with going back on our spiritual consecration.

MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 5:6 "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled."

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Would you say hunger and thirst for righteousness is the norm with you as a Christian? Are you still like that now?



STUDY 10

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

THE CHARACTER
OF THE
NEW MAN

TOPIC:

THE BLESSEDNESS
OF BEING
MERCIFUL.

TEXT:

MATTHEW 5:7.

AIMS:

To contrast kingdom values with worldly values, and teach us to show mercy to people so that we can receive mercy.

INTRODUCTION

The sermon of Jesus on the mount started with the beatitudes which are a series of statements describing the divine satisfaction that comes from the right relationship with God. It conveys the general meaning of being happy or joyful but it is spiritual blessedness.

The fifth beatitude states, "Blessed are the merciful for they will be shown mercy," meaning we are blessed if we are merciful. To be merciful is to show forgiveness and have compassion for those in need. Jesus frequently spoke of it and acted it out in his life throughout his ministry on earth. We, as Christians are equally

supposed to talk about it and act accordingly in order that we may obtain mercy from God. God's mercy is the withholding of a just punishment which we deserve to receive. That's why Jesus declared, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice, for I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

STUDY GUIDE

1. State in your own words what you understand by *being merciful and *receiving mercy.
2. What lessons can you draw from the following scriptures concerning mercy? Matt 6:12, Matt 9:13, Deut 30:3, Psalm 28:6, Mk 5:19, Rom 11:30, 2Cor 4:1, 1Tim 1:13, Titus 3:5, 1Pet 1:3
3. What happens to us when we refuse the instruction of Jesus to show mercy? Discuss
4. Discuss practical ways we can show mercy to others in the church, the family, and the community. Luke 10:30-37, Jam. 2:14-16

CONCLUSION

We who are in Christ have received God's mercy. Therefore, we are blessed if we are merciful because God himself liberally displays mercy and loves all who show mercy to others. Our salvation is simply a divine act of mercy and certainly not because of the righteous things we have done. Therefore, we must endeavor to consistently show mercy to others so we may receive God's mercy.

MEMORY VERSE

Matt. 5: 7, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy"

EXAMINE YOURSELF

When last did you show someone mercy?





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DIOCESE OF EVO QUARTERLY PRAYER POINTS

PRAYER POINTS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER

1. Thank God for His love over the Diocese of Evo, our Bishop and family.
2. Palm Sunday Service holds in all of our Churches on Sunday 9th April. Pray that Jesus will be revealed afresh in our Churches.
3. The Diocesan Mission and Evangelism Board will be visiting the Churches they planted at the Diocese of on the Lake on Wednesday 12th – Saturday 15th April. Pray that the Lord will go ahead of them in their missionary enterprise.
4. Pray for the Clergy/Church Workers Children Easter Retreat that will hold on Monday 24th April, at St. Michael's Rumuomasi. Pray that the Lord will encounter them in a special way.
5. The annual Church of Nigeria/Province of Niger Delta National Christian Leadership Conference holds from Monday, 24th – Friday 28th April. Pray that through this Conference, God will empower and raise godly Leaders who will do His will wherever He positions them.
6. Diocesan Endowment Fund Drive and Support takes place in all our Churches on Sunday 30th April. Pray and ask the Lord to move the hearts of His people to give sacrificially and that people will redeem all the previous pledges they made.
7. AYF National week/Celebrating AYF at 60 take place from Monday 1st- Sunday 7th May in all our Churches. Ask for a mighty visitation of God's Spirit upon our youths as they celebrate.
8. Pray for the success of the AYF national Executive Council Meeting that will hold in Diocese of Jos. Pray for all the persons that will be representing our Diocese, that the Lord will grant them journey Mercies.
9. Pray for the Bishop and all the clergy as they embark on Episcopal/Pastoral visitations to Business and Workplaces of Parishioners for prayer and blessing during the Rogation season from Monday 22nd – Wednesday 24th May. Pray that Lord will use them mightily to minister to His people.
10. ACM children week holds from Monday 22nd – Sunday 28th May in all our Churches. Pray that the Lord will bless all our children through their programmes within this week.
11. Pray for the out pouring of the Spirit of God upon the Diocesan community as we wait upon the Lord from Friday 26th May - Saturday 3rd June, in preparation for the day of Pentecost.
12. Pray for the success of the Crusade and New Church opening along Igbo Etche Road, Rumuokwurusu from Thursday 1st – Sunday, 4th June.
13. Pray for the success of Private and Public Secondary School Ministry as they lunch their College Mission Week from Monday 5th- Friday 9th June. Pray that it will be a fruitful and enriching programme for all the schools that will participate.
14. Fathers' Week holds in all our Churches from Monday 12th – Sunday 18th June. Ask the Lord to reach out to our men and bless them through their activities.
15. Council of knights Luncheon holds on Saturday 24th June at St. Andrew's Rumuobiokani. Pray that the Lord will move the hearts of the people to give generously towards the project of the Knights
16. Pray for the success of Diocesan Widows Conference holding on Friday 23rd – Sunday 25th June at Bethel Rumuibekwe.
17. On the Highway and Hedges holds in all our Churches from Monday 26th – Sunday 2nd July. Pray that God will grant us great harvest of Souls in all our Churches as we go for Evangelism.
18. Pray and ask the Lord for an open Heaven in our Diocesan Mega Night Vigil that will hold on Friday 30th June at St. Mark's Elelenwo.

APRIL 2017

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL MANUAL

CHURCH OF NIGERIA QUARTERLY PRAYER DAY

PRAYER POINTS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER

1. Thank God for His faithfulness over your life and family
2. Pray for the Peace of our nation Nigeria. Pray that God will arrest the sponsors of violence and other vices in our Country.
3. Pray for our Christian brethren in the North. Ask God to strengthen and equip them to face the diverse persecution from Boko Haram and other Islamic fundamentalists.
4. Pray for Anglican Dioceses in the North. Pray for their Bishops and Clergy. Ask God to supply all their needs.
5. Pray against the Islamization of Northern Nigeria. Pray that the gospel will grow stronger as in the days of Stephen.
6. Pray for Church of Nigeria Missionary Society (C.N.M.S) and missionaries all over the world especially in Nigeria. Pray for members of our Clergy who are in Togo, Niger, Chad, Burkina Faso e.t.c. Ask God to protect them and supply all they need.
7. Pray that God will direct your path to the path of righteousness. That you will be at the right place doing the right thing at the right time.
8. Pray that God will fill your cup to overflowing.
9. Pray for God's favour to locate you as you journey through this year.



STUDY 11

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

THE CHARACTER
OF THE
NEW MAN

TOPIC:

THE BLESSEDNESS
OF BEING
PURE IN HEART

TEXT:

MATTHEW 5:8

AIM:

To teach the brethren that purity of heart is an indispensable requisite for a genuine relationship with the Lord and point out the consequences of living contrarily.


INTRODUCTION

To be pure in heart is to be clean, blameless and unstained with guilt. It is a process of pruning which Jesus described in John 15: 1- 17.

A pure heart is one devoid of hypocrisy, one which has no guile, hatred, or hidden motives. The pure in heart is marked by transparency and an uncompromising desire to please God in all things. It is more than an external purity of behavior. It is an internal purity of soul. The only way we can be pure in heart is by yielding ourselves wholly to Jesus and allowing Him to effect in us all the necessary cleansing by the power of His Spirit who dwells in us.

STUDY GUIDE

1. Explain what you understand by the phrase “pure in heart”.

- 
2. From the following passages of the scripture explain what God is teaching us about being pure in heart; Psa. 51:10, 1John 3:1-3, Mal. 3:2, Matt. 3:11, John 15: 1-4a.
 3. How can one become pure in heart? John 15: 1-8, Pro. 4: 23
 4. In what practical ways can being pure in heart help us in church and family life?

CONCLUSION

The only way one can be truly pure in heart is to yield it wholly to Jesus and ask him to effect the necessary cleansing work thereupon. Just like the psalmist in Psalm 51:10, the new man's daily prayer should be; "create in me a clean heart, and renew a steadfast spirit within me."

MEMORY VERSE

Ps. 51:10, "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me."

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Is your heart inclined to pleasing God or to pleasing yourself?



STUDY 12

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

THE CHARACTER
OF THE
NEW MAN

TOPIC:

**BLESSEDNESS
OF BEING A
PEACE MAKER**

TEXT:

MATTHEW 5:9

AIM:

To help participants understand the necessity of being consistently disposed to brokering peace between warring parties and the practical steps to doing so with eternity in view.

INTRODUCTION

The 7th beatitude says “Blessed are the peace makers, they shall be called the sons of God (NIV).”

Jesus laid down his life to make peace between God and man (sinners) and He expects us to carry that message of peace to the world. God delights in those who engage in the task of reconciling others to Himself (2Cor 5:18). So is he delighted in those who bring reconciliation (peace) to broken relationships in the family, church and the community. And it is only those who bring this reconciliation to broken relationships that are carrying out the work of Jesus Christ and are called

“Blessed”. There is no real peace outside the realms of His ruler-ship. (Rom 5:1).

STUDY GUIDE

1. Who is a peacemaker?
2. Identify from the following passages the scriptural concept of peacemaking. Isa. 52:7, 2Cor 5:18, Rom 5:1, Col 1:20.
3. How can peace makers be identified in the family, church and community? (Discuss their characteristic features)
4. In what practical ways can one demonstrate the art of peacemaking in the family, church and community?

CONCLUSION

Those who witness for Christ are ambassadors for peace because they share their faith with others and go the extra mile to assert themselves as agents of reconciliation, peace and tranquility wherever they go and in all their role relationships- in the family, Church, neighborhood, community, etc. And those who bring or exemplify this wonderful message of God's peace to others are called "the children of God".

MEMORY VERSE

Colosians 1:20 "And through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross."

EXAMINE YOURSELF

When last did you attempt to reconcile someone back to God or make peace between warring parties?



STUDY 13

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

THE CHARACTER
OF THE
NEW MAN

TOPIC:

BLESSEDNESS OF
SUFFERING
PERSECUTION FOR
RIGHTEOUSNESS SAKE

TEXT:

MATTHEW 5:10-12

AIM:

To discuss the positive dimension of persecution and what Christians stand to gain through it.

INTRODUCTION

There are those who think that once they have given their lives to Christ, they will be shielded from persecutions and challenges of life. This is far from the truth. In fact, persecution is one of the things Jesus promised His followers: "I tell you the truth, no man who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age - homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields, with persecutions and in the age to come, eternal life" (Matt. 10:29-30). Persecution is one of the packages which await all who would walk in the newness of life. Knowledge of this biblical

fact engenders in the new man the right mind-set which enables him to comprehend and positively respond to issues of persecution.

This study should serve as an eye-opener to the brethren that as Christians, there is something to gain from being persecuted.


STUDY GUIDE

1. With practical examples, explain what you understand by the term persecution.
- 2
 - a. Discuss persecution in the light of the following scriptures: Heb. 11:37-40; James 5:10, John 16:33; Acts 14:22; 2Tim. 3:12.
 - b. What are the lessons here for believers today?
- 3
 - a. Highlight the blessings that can come to Christians by means of persecutions, Matt. 5:10-12
 - b. What virtue is required of us if we must experience these blessings? Matt. 24:13; James 5:7.
4. Discuss what the attitude of the new man should be in the face of persecutions. Jam. 1; 2-4

CONCLUSION

Reading through the Bible very carefully, it will be easily discovered that our patriarchs passed through various forms of persecution. Joseph, for instance, suffered humiliating experiences which culminated in unjust imprisonment in Egypt, but at the end, was catapulted from prison to the position





of Egypt's Prime Minister. Our Lord Himself was persecuted while on earth but later earned for Himself a Name that is above every other name in heaven, in earth, and under the earth. The surest but narrow way to divine promotion is through persecution. Are you going through one? Be patient and courageous; you will be rewarded at the end, if you persevere.

MEMORY VERSE

2 Timothy 3:12, “Yes, and all who desire to live godly lives in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

How do you perceive persecution; as a curse, or potential source of blessing?

STUDY 14

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

THE CHARACTER
OF THE
NEW MAN

TOPIC:

THE **SALT**
OF THE **EARTH**

TEXT:

MATTHEW 5:13

AIM:


To help participants appreciate some significant roles the new man should play in whatever relationship he finds himself in the society and the danger in neglecting or failing to live up to the assigned responsibilities.

INTRODUCTION

Using the unique allegory of common salt, our Lord Jesus, in our text, describes a peculiar position the new man occupies in his world- “You are the salt of the earth.” Every one of us knows the usefulness of salt – for seasoning and preservation. The new man is expected to do in all his role relationships what salt does to food and some other household commodities. This study will help us comprehend this subject better.

STUDY GUIDE

- 1 a. Discuss the importance of salt in the home
- b. How does this apply to the believer's roles in his environment? Mark 9:50b
- 2 a. From our text, what happens to the salt when it becomes “tasteless”?
- b. State and discuss in practical terms the various ways a believer's life can be adjudged tasteless.

- 
3. “Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so you may know how to answer everyone” Col. 4:6. Analyse this scripture in the light of our topic of discussion?
 4. What scriptural steps should the new man take to ensure that his saltiness is constantly maintained?

CONCLUSION

One thing is to become a Christian; another is to have people feel the impact of our Christianity. Believers must consciously look for ways they will impact upon their generation; otherwise the salt in us will become “tasteless” resulting in being thrown away and marched upon by those whose lives we are supposed to impact.

MEMORY VERSE

Mark 9:50b, “Have salt in yourselves, and have peace with one another”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Are you seasoning the world around you?



STUDY 15

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

INTRODUCTORY
STUDIES

TOPIC:

**THE LIGHT
OF THE
WORLD**

TEXT:

MATTHEW 5:14-16

AIM:

To teach that Christians ought
to shine wherever they are

INTRODUCTION

Light is a natural agent that stimulates sight and makes things visible. It illuminates, brightens, shines, glows, blazes and glares. In this all-important teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ on the Mount He highlights the fact that His followers ought to reflect through their lives in society the true character of bona fide kingdom citizens. Just as the light asserts itself positively over the darkness, the new man is easily distinguished from the rotten lot by his consistent godly disposition.

STUDY GUIDE

- 1a. What do you understand by the phrase “the light of the world?” Matt. 5: 14-16, Isa. 60: 1-3
- b. “A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.” How does this apply to the new man in his role relationships?
2. Using the new man as a focal point, discuss the

implications of a 'lamp that is lit and kept under the bushel.'

3. "Let your light so shine before men....." Matt. 5:16. How does this apply to the new man in the various spheres of the society, like the family, church, community, etc? cf: Matt. 7:20, Eph. 5: 8-21
4. Discuss the manifest consequences of the believers' failure to shine as light in any society.

CONCLUSION

It is not by what or who we claim to be that the world would identify us as Christians but by our activities, our day-to-day living, our works, the fruits we produce. The world is tired of hearing us talk about the kingdom life which we are not able to reflect through exemplary character. Irrespective of how beautiful our gospel messages may sound, they may never be able to draw men close to God unless they tally with the life we live.

MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 7:20, "Therefore, by their fruits you will know them"

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Can you truly say you are reflecting the Christ you claim to profess?



STUDY 16

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

THE CHARACTER
OF THE
NEW MAN

TOPIC:

**LOVING
OUR
ENEMY**

TEXT:

MATTHEW 5: 43-48,
ROMANS.12:17-21.

AIM:

To help brethren understand what it means to love our enemies, why we should show love to our enemies even where it seems impracticable, and how to practically do this

INTRODUCTION

Love for our enemies is a one of the fundamental Christian virtues which are being unwittingly expunged from the spiritual Dictionary of the average believer in our generation. Christian love is a character which should be applied to all, friends and foes alike, Love for God and our neighbours is the culmination of all the commandments. (Lev. 19:18, I Cor.13).

An enemy is someone who is hostile to, feels hatred towards, opposes the interests of or intends injury to" us. Anybody can fit into this mould who unwittingly or otherwise yields himself as a tool for Satanic manipulation and oppression. The situation is even dicier where the enemy is from within (eg.,

a member of one's own household). But whatever the case may be, the new man is expected to toe the line of our Lord

Jesus who both taught and exemplified the need to love one's enemy.

The pervading teaching in most Christian circles which encourages believers to wish, seek, and pray for the death of their enemies seems to contradict what Jesus taught and lived for. Our love should not be limited to only those who love us, but should also be fully extended to those who hate, persecute, and spitefully use us (Matt. 5: 44, Lk. 6: 28). Therein lies an essential difference between the new man and the unbeliever whose mind is not yet regenerated. O Lord, grant us wisdom in this study! Amen!!

STUDY GUIDE

1. What is your understanding of “Love” and “Loving your enemy”?
2. Read Mat.5:45-48, and discuss the biblical reasons from each of the verses why we should love our enemies according to Jesus Christ?
3. Read the following passages and draw out their lessons to us in relation to our study? 1 Cor.4:12, 1 Pet.3:9, &16, Gal. 5:22, Rom.12:14.
4. In Mt.5:44, discuss in details what Jesus practically means by these four words in response to our enemies- love, bless, do good, and pray for? Ex. 23:4-5, Rom.12:20, & Lk.6:36.
5. Do you think it is possible for the new man to practice this seemingly impracticable injunction of the Lord to His disciples? Why? Matt.5:48, Rom.12:21.





CONCLUSION

To the natural man, love for the enemy is an injunction that is impracticable. But the fact that Jesus both taught and lived it out is a clear indication that the new man, now fully recreated and empowered to live like Christ, will not find it too difficult to love his enemies. Love for the enemy is one of the several proofs that one has experienced genuine divine transformation through simple faith in Christ Jesus, and that is a character of the new man.

MEMORY VERSE

Rom. 12:20, "But you should do this; if your enemy is hungry, feed him: if he is thirsty, give him a drink. Doing this will be like pouring burning coals on his head."

EXAMINE YOURSELF

No one who hates his brother or sister is in the light! Do you believe this?





T H E M E :

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN
.(1TIM. 3:15, 2THESS. 3:7)



SUB THEME C:

ATTITUDES, TEARING
DOWN THE OLD AND
BUILDING THE NEW



STUDY 17

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES, TEARING
DOWN THE OLD AND
BUILDING THE NEW

TOPIC:

NEW WINE IN
NEW WINESKIN

TEXT:

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17,
MATTHEW 9:17

AIMS:

To establish the difference between the old and the new man, and how impossible it is for the new man to fruitfully express his new nature while still encapsulated by the old man.

INTRODUCTION

Our Lord Jesus sought to draw the hearers' attention to the fact that for one who has received the free gift of salvation to enjoy the newness of life, he must first of all part ways completely with all that pertained to his old nature. Doing contrarily would surely negate every effort the believer makes to live as a true ambassador of Christ in the world.

Death to the old man is therefore an indispensable requisite for the full expression of the Christ-life in us. Otherwise, the old will stifle the new, and the efforts, sacrifices and gains of our salvation would all be in vain because light and darkness will never agree,

not even on the minutest of details.

It is required that new wine be bottled in new wineskin so the new may never be contaminated by any trace of the imperfections of the old, soured wine, in the old wineskin.

STUDY GUIDE


1. What is your understanding of “new wine in new wineskin”?
2. Discuss the newness of life in the light of Col. 3: 9,10
3. What are the clear differences between the new and the old man? Support your points with portions from the scripture.
4. How does the old man transform into the new? Jn.3:3-5, 1:12.
5. Discuss some of the reasons why these two natures (old and new) are incompatible with each other? Cf 2Cor. 6:14-17

CONCLUSION

The Bible portrait of a new man is one who has been regenerated and has consequently cast off the old, stained and soiled garbs of sin and wickedness and has taken on the new, clean, fresh and untainted garment of righteousness and holiness.

When Jesus Christ transforms a man, the heart of sin is done away with while he takes upon him a new heart clothed in righteousness, a heart which





loathes sin and all its accessories with passion, a heart that is patterned after the nature of Christ, and thus would have nothing in common with any semblance of the dark, haggard, evil nature.

MEMORY VERSE

2 Cor. 5:17, “If anyone belongs to Christ, there is a new creation. The old things have gone, everything is made new.”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Are you wearing the new heart of righteousness or heart mixed with sin?

STUDY 18

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES, TEARING
DOWN THE OLD AND
BUILDING THE NEW

TOPIC:

NOT CONFORMING
TO THE WORLD

TEXT:

ROMANS 12:1-3; 1
JOHN 2:15-17

AIMS:

To help participants understand that conformity to the world is one attitude which is inconsistent with the new man's identity and therefore must be traded for a fruitful life in the kingdom.

INTRODUCTION

Someone has aptly observed that the Church is fast becoming worldly just as the world is becoming churchy. It is becoming increasingly difficult to draw a clear distinction between these two entities. This is because, unlike those good old days when the average Christian was easily identified by their demeanour, it would now take a super spiritually sensitive person to distinguish a genuine believer from the rest of the world. For the new man, however, the reverse will always be the case. Like the Apostle Peter, the new man will always quiz himself thus, "what shall it profit a man to parley with the world and lose his soul to the devil?" Therefore, no matter the weight of carrot the world dangles before him, the new

man would not be ensnared because he has bid the world farewell for life.

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do you understand by the phrase, “not conforming to the world?” Rom. 12: 2, 1 Jn. 2: 15, 16, .
2. With practical examples, explain these terms; “lust of the eyes”, “lust of the flesh”, and the “pride of life”, and state how they relate with conformity to the world.
3. How is the believer supposed to keep himself from conforming to the world? Rom. 12; 1, 2, 1 John 2:15
4. Mention and discuss different practical ways a Christian can separate himself from the patterns of the life of the world in the following areas. (Mat. 5:27, Col. 3:8, Eph. 4:29)
 - a. Communication:
 - b. Dressing/Fashion:
 - c. Culture/societal norms:
 - d. Relationship:
5. What should be our duty to those who are still in the world? Matt. 28:18-20.

CONCLUSION

The world is replete with all shades and colours of “apples and carrots, garlies and cucumbers” which the evil uses to ensnare the people, including God's children. The new man is expected to have understood the worthlessness of these worldly allurements, the danger in falling for their entrapments, and the wisdom in keeping a good distance from them so his destiny and testimonies are not ever compromised.

MEMORY VERSE

Rom. 12:2, “And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God.”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Do you renew your mind daily with the Word of God?



STUDY 19

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES, TEARING
DOWN THE OLD AND
BUILDING THE NEW

TOPIC:

**RENEWING
OF THE
MIND**

TEXT:

ROMANS 12:13;
EPHESIANS 4:17-24;
2CORINTHIANS 3:18

AIM:


Participants should be able to explain how we can renew our minds and see reasons why it is necessary for us to do so.

INTRODUCTION

A man was once asked how the society could be transformed for good. After careful thought, he replied, "Change the way people think. Just change their mindset." This is exactly what the gospel does to whoever truly submits to its powerful influence. It has the power to transform the mind-set and reposition the believer for the appropriate kingdom life here on earth.

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do you understand by the phrase "renewing of the mind?"
2. Why do Christians need to renew their mind? Gen. 6: 5, Rom. 12: 2,
3. What are the characteristic features of a renewed mind? Rom. 5: 3-5, 12: 2, Eph. 4: 29, 1 Thess. 5: 16-18

- 
4. How would you analyze the fact that renewing of the mind results in wholesome transformation of the believer's life? Rom. 12: 2, Eph. 4: 17-32
 5. What are the consequences of carrying a mind that is not renewed into any kind of relationship?

CONCLUSION

It is important to recognize that being born again does not automatically change the way one reasons, acts or responds to life's issues. Man is a tripartite being- is spirit, has a soul, and lives in a body. Of these three, only the spirit is automatically transformed when one is born again. The soul which embodies the mind needs to be worked at to keep it aligned to the transformed spirit-man. Care must be taken to keep the mind progressively renewed, and this we do by feeding it with the undiluted Word of God on a consistent basis. Subjecting your mind-set, actions and responses and all issues pertaining to life to the powerful influence of the Word of God is the process of renewing of the mind.

MEMORY VERSE

“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God” (Rom.12:2, KJV).

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Are you consciously subjecting your mind to constant nourishment and renewal by the Word of God?



STUDY 20

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES, TEARING
DOWN THE OLD AND
BUILDING THE NEW

TOPIC:

PUTTING OFF THE
OLD MAN

TEXT:

EPHESIANS 4:20-32;
COL 1: 19

AIM:


By the end of the study,
participants should be able to
mention ways we can put off
the old man and appreciate
the fact that they need to do
so (put off the old man).

INTRODUCTION

What would happen if we never washed our clothes? How would our home smell if we never got rid of the smelly wastes that are daily generated therein? Would leaving all of our laundry dirty cause any other problem? If you visited someone's house and the atmosphere reeked of dirty clothes and smelly wastes, would you want to visit there again? Dirty clothes sure make a mess! We either wash them or put them away for good.

STUDY GUIDE

1. What does putting off the old man imply? Col.3:9-10; Rom.6:6; Gal.5:16-18; Rom.8:12-13
2. Why is it important that we put off the old man? Matt.9:17; 2 Cor.6:14

- 
3. “Putting off the Old Man” is like taking off a worthless coat or jacket.
 - (a) Identify and discuss some attitudes which represent the old man in the average believer's life. Col. 3:5-9
 - (b) What effects do they have on the believers and the local churches? Eph. 5:6,5
 4. Mention from the following scriptures some things we necessarily need to put off. Gal.5:19-21; 1 Pet.4:3; Col.3:5-9

CONCLUSION

We can only live for Christ and above sin when we put off the old man.

MEMORY VERSE

“That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts” Eph.4:22, KJV

EXAMINE YOURSELF

What aspect of your life should be done away with so the new man in you can find its free expression?



STUDY 21

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES, TEARING
DOWN THE OLD AND
BUILDING THE NEW

TOPIC:

PUTTING ON THE
NEW MAN

TEXT:

EPH 4:17-24;
COL 1:1-10;
LUKE 19:1-10

AIM:

By the end of the study, participants should be able to mention ways we can put on the new man and appreciate the fact that they need to do so (put on the new man).

INTRODUCTION

If a man's clothe is dirty and he removes it, he will need to put on another one if he really wants to go out again. Why? He cannot go out naked!

Putting on the new man is a process which must be preceded by a putting off of the old.

STUDY GUIDE

1. Who is the new man?
2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 4:24
2. What changes are synonymous with the new man? 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph. 4:24; Col. 3:12-14; Rom. 6:6; Rom. 13:14; 1 John 5:4; John 3:6
3. What could be said of Zacchaeus before and after his encounter with Jesus Christ. Luke 19:1-10
4. What are the practical indications that one has actually put on the new man? Gal. 5: 16, 22-24, Eph. 4: 23-32, Luke 19:8, 9.



CONCLUSION

The new man is born of incorruptible seed; he has been purged by God, a different being in all ramifications.

MEMORY VERSE

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”
(2 Cor. 5:17, KJV)

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Have you really put on the new man, or is the old self still dominating your life?

STUDY 22

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES, TEARING
DOWN THE OLD AND
BUILDING THE NEW

TOPIC:

ATTITUDE OF THE
NEW MAN IN
THE FAMILY

TEXT:

EPHESIANS 5:22 – 6:4;
COL 3:18 – 25, 1 TIM 5:3-8

AIM:

To examine the expected
attitude of the new man in
the family

INTRODUCTION

According to the Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English, attitude is the way that you think and feel about somebody or something, or the way you behave towards somebody or something that shows how you think and feel." Attitude, therefore, is one's thoughts and feelings expressed in behaviour. The new man is a new creature in Christ Jesus; transformed from within by the power of the Holy Spirit, and washed by the blood of Jesus. (II Corinth. 5:17).

A family is an essential institution for the growth and nurture of human beings to fulfill God's purpose on earth. It is the coming together of two people to build a home. It is the right place to develop the right attitudes

that build harmony. This study will examine the attitude of the new man in the family.

STUDY GUIDE

- 1 a. Explain the terms “attitude”, “family” and “the new man” (see John 3:3,6' II Corinth 5:17, Romans 12:1
b. What harmony exists between the three?
2. What are the expected attitudes of the new man in the family – as husband, wife, child and servant? Col 3:18-22, Eph 5:22-6:4; I Tim 5:3-8
3. How can the new man constantly develop and display a positive attitude in the family. Gal 5:16-24,. Rom. 2:1,2
4. Identify and discuss modern challenges to the family and how the new man should address and respond to them.

CONCLUSION

The family is expected to provide a conducive environment for the new man to grow and display positive attitudes. When each member of the family becomes a new man and exhibits a transformed attitude, harmony will be established in the home.

MEMORY VERSE

Eph 5:33 “Nevertheless let everyone of you in particular so love his wife even as himself, and the wife see that she reverence her husband.”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Is your attitude in the family a reflection of the new man you claim to be?



STUDY 23

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE

NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES, TEARING
DOWN THE OLD AND
BUILDING THE NEW

TOPIC:

ATTITUDE OF THE
NEW MAN IN THE
CHURCH

TEXT:

ROMANS 12:4-18;
EPHESIANS 4:7-15

AIM:

To help the participants
identify what the attitude of
the new man in the Church
should be.

INTRODUCTION

The church is the body of Christ, with different functional parts, and for the purpose of declaring the praises of God (1 Corinth 12:27, 1 Peter 2:9). The Greek word for the church is Ekklesia. It is the local assembly of all believers who adhere to and follow the teachings of Jesus Christ.

The church is the house of God, the pillar and ground of the truth. For the church to fulfill its mandate, it is required that individual members play their roles, effectively. The attitude of the individual members will naturally influence the programme of God for the church. This study will X-ray the required attitudes

of the new man – the regenerated, converted, born again man in the church.

STUDY GUIDE

- 1 a. How would you explain the word “Church”.
b. What is God's purpose for the Church? Acts 1:8, 1 Peter 2:9; Mk.16:15-18
2. From the following scriptures, identify and discuss the attitudes of the average believer in the early Church. Acts 2:42-47; 4:32-36. Is it the same today? What may have influenced this attitude?
3. Read Rom. 12:4-18 and identify specific roles and attitudes required of the new man in the church today.
4. Taking your local church as a reference point, would you say that members are living up to their responsibilities to the Church?
 - b. Suggest practical ways the perceived anomalies can be redressed.

CONCLUSION

The church is God's workforce, the called out from the world, a local congregation for fellowship and for propagating the goodness of the Lord. The early Church membership had the right attitude to worship and service. The present church should do better with all the available resources at their disposal. Since we are His workmanship, let us display His praise to the world and share in each other's burden.

MEMORY VERSE

Eph 2:10; “We are God's workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Is your attitude building your local Church or destroying it?





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DIOCESE OF EVO QUARTERLY PRAYER POINTS

PRAYER POINTS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER

1. Return all the Glory to the Lord for Preservations, protections and provisions throughout last quarter.
2. Pray for a mighty outpouring of the power of God at the student confirmation service on Sunday 2nd July in CHACFA.
3. Pray for the success of Adult Sunday school Teachers' conference holding on Friday 7th – Saturday 8th July.
4. 8th Anniversary of Bishop's Consecration and inauguration of Diocese and Enthronement of Bishop holds from Monday 10th – Sunday 16th July. Pray that the purpose of God for Bishop and the entire Diocese will be established.
5. Mid-Year Retreat for Bishop, Clergy and church Teachers and Wives/ Leaders of Activity Groups holds at Rose of Sharon on Sunday 16th July. Pray that the Lord will grant them open heaven and empower them more to do the work He has committed into their hands.
6. Pray and commit all about our Diocesan Synod holding Wednesday 26th – Sunday 30th July at St. Mark's Elelenwo into the hand of God. Ask the Lord to have His way. May He by His Spirit guide and direct the details of all the deliberations during the Synod.
7. Pray for the success of the Diocesan Girls Guild Conference at Bethel Rumuibekwe on Friday 13th – Sunday 15th August.
8. Pray for the success of ACM Provincial Teachers Conference from Thursday 17th – Sunday 20th August.
9. Home Fellowship/Family Life Conference holds on Thursday 17th – Sunday 20th August. Pray that the Lord will breathe upon this Conference.
10. On the Highway and Hedges holds in all our Churches from Monday 28th – Saturday September 2nd. Pray that Lord will grant us harvest of souls as we move out to evangelize.
11. Pray for the success of the Diocesan Ladies Conference at Olive Plants Rumuomasi on Saturday 2nd – Sunday 3rd September.
12. Pray for the success of the Church of Nigeria General Synod that holds at St. Paul's Cathedral Diobu on Monday 18th – Friday 22nd September. Pray for the journey mercies of all the participants. Let all the decisions and deliberations during this great meeting be influenced by the Holy Spirit.
13. Pray for the success of the Diocese Sisters Forum Conference holding from Friday 22nd – Sunday 24th September at COHS Elelenwo.
14. Pray for the dedication of All Saints' Cathedral Auditorium on Saturday 23rd or Sunday 24th September. Pray that the glory, power and the presence of the Lord will fill His temple.
15. Pray for the success of our Diocesan Disciple Conference/Harvest thanksgiving Service on Wednesday 27th – Sun 1st October at St. Nicholas, Woji.

APRIL 2017

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL MANUAL

CHURCH OF NIGERIA QUARTERLY PRAYER DAY

PRAYER POINTS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER

1. Thank God for His faithfulness over your life and family
2. Pray for the Body of Christ in Nigeria. Pray that the Church will take the great commission seriously. Pray for the unity of the Body of Christ all over the world and particularly in Nigeria.
3. Pray for Church leaders. Pray that God will deliver His ministers from materialism and selfishness. Ask God to raise faithful ministers for Himself who will represent His kingdom in this generation.
4. Pray against false teachers in the Body of Christ. Pray that God will expose their works and deliver their victims. Pray against any of such in Church of Nigeria.
5. Pray for our Primate that God will continue to guide and protect him in his going out and coming in.
6. Pray for all our Archbishops, Bishops and Priests that God will protect them in their stations.
7. Pray for all travelers. Pray that God will keep them safe in Air, on Sea and on Road.
8. Pray for the Standing Committee of the Church of Nigeria. Ask the Holy Spirit to direct the deliberations of our leaders. Pray and claim your liberty from bondage into freedom, from lack into abundance, from little into plenty.



T H E M E :

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN
.(1TIM. 3:15, 2THESS. 3:7)



SUB THEME D:

ATTITUDES OF THE
NEW MAN IN HIS
ROLE RELATIONSHIPS



STUDY 24

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES OF THE
NEW MAN IN HIS
ROLE RELATIONSHIPS

TOPIC:

ATTITUDE OF THE
NEW MAN IN THE
COMMUNITY

TEXT:

MATTHEW. 5:13-16;
1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-13;
1 TIMOTHY. 2:1-8

AIM:


To identify and examine
different communities and
the attitude of the New man
in each community.

INTRODUCTION

According to the Oxford Mini Reference Dictionary, a community is a body of people living in one district or having common interests or origins. They may include clubs, villages, associations, unions etc. Each community exists for a purpose. It is expected of the new man in Christ Jesus, to shine as light in whichever community he finds himself or herself (Matt. 5:16), and to shun all of their activities that are ungodly (Eph. 5:11).

STUDY GUIDE

1. Identify and examine the different communities around you today? How godly are the activities of these communities?
2. What should be the attitude of the new man to all ungodly activities in any community?. Eph 5: 1-12

- 
3. What positive attitude should the new man display in the community. Col. 3: 12-17, Matt. 5: 16, 1 Tim 2:1-3, 8-10.
 4. Most of our communities are not in peace today due to youth restiveness, insurgences, etc. What specific roles should the new man be playing in such community? Matt. 5: 9,13-16,
Do you sincerely think that contemporary Christians are living up to their assigned responsibilities as the salt and light in the communities? Discuss.

CONCLUSION

Every individual belongs to a community. We must as Christians shine as light and exhibit the right attitude in all our dealings and relationships in the communities, and be mindful of the fact that though we are in the world, we are not of the world. We should therefore pursue peace and live in harmony with other members of the community while shunning all ungodliness.

MEMORY VERSE

Matt. 5:16, “Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Are you a problem in your community or a solution?



STUDY 25

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES OF THE
NEW MAN IN HIS
ROLE RELATIONSHIPS

TOPIC:

ATTITUDES OF THE
NEW MAN IN
HIS WORK PLACE.

TEXT:

EPHESIANS 6:5-9,
1TIMOTHY 6:1,2

AIM:


To help participants see the imperativeness of exhibiting true Christian characters, witness to Christ, and act as His true ambassadors in the work place.

INTRODUCTION

Believers are expected to be worthy ambassadors of Christ in all avenues through which they earn their living. But how often people are disappointed with the attitudes and behavior Christians display in the work place. If our expectation is to make Christ visible to those around us, our workplaces must be made extensions of his Church and our lives the practical epistle they should relate with. People around us are more positively affected by our attitudes in the work place when our spirituality wears a human face and our life is encapsulated in genuine love, holiness and integrity.

STUDY GUIDE

1. What should be the attitude of a Christian in his workplace toward
 - (a), his superiors, and (b), his subordinates? John 13: 3-5, 1Tim. 6:1-2 ; Eph. 6:5-7, 9, Col. 3:22 -4:1

- 
2. How can our faithful stewardship as “new man” affect people around us in our place of work? John 13:34-35, Rom. 13:8-10, Rom. 12:9-21, Matt. 5:13-16, 1Cor. 9:19-23.
 3. “When integrity is lost, all else is lost.” Discuss this statement in the light of building a strong role relationship in our workplace.
 - 4 a. Identify and explain the challenges of living out a true Christian life in a work environment infested with corruption and other social vices. Dan. 1:3-8, Heb. 11:24-26, Gen 39:1-12, Dan 6:15; 3:1-3.
 - b. How should the new man navigate through those challenges?

CONCLUSION

For too long Church based activities have been separated from everyday Christian life in the work place. Many Christians are, therefore, perceived to maintain different standards of spirituality in the church and work environment. Consequently, many of those with whom we relate in the work place find it difficult to reconcile our Christian confession with the character we portray in reality. It is therefore high time the Church moved beyond its present focus on building empires to investing massively on effective discipleship schemes aimed at building individuals for more fruitful spiritual expeditions at the work place.

MEMORY VERSE

1Cor. 9:22b “I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Of what effect is your character to others in the place of work?



STUDY 26

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES OF THE
NEW MAN IN HIS
ROLE RELATIONSHIPS

TOPIC:

ATTITUDES OF THE
NEW MAN IN
GOVERNANCE.

TEXT:

1TIMOTHY 3:1-13,
1PETER. 5:1-4.

AIM:

To show the imperativeness of the character of the new man in creating and sustaining good governance in our corrupt and depraved society, and encourage Christian faithful to aspire into political office in order to model the desired change.

INTRODUCTION

When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when the wicked rules, the people groan.” (Prov. 29:2). The style and effect of governance on any given people is, to a large extent, a reflection of the attitude of those at the helm of affairs in that community, state or nation.

The bible is replete with stories of suffering and hardship the people of God and others experienced under wicked and ungodly rulers. The story remains the same even in most contemporary societies where God is either relegated or totally eschewed from the circles of governance. This study should stir believers up to

the stark reality that our society is passing through terrible times as a consequence of a dearth of godly leadership, and

also point out the urgent need for genuine Christians to henceforth seek for political offices essentially as a means of impacting positively upon the people through godly leadership.

STUDY GUIDES

1. What attitudes of the leaders mentioned in these scriptures helped in nation building and establishing righteousness. Gen. 41:46-49, ; 2Kings 18:1-7; 2Chron. 17:1-6, ; 2Chron. 30:1-5.
2. What do you think is responsible for the poor participation of many Christians in the governance of this nation? How can this be redressed?.
3. Mention and discuss the role of the following virtues in establishing and sustaining good governance in any society;
 - Integrity Dan. 6:1-3
 - Righteousness, Prov. 28:12, 29:2, 14:19,34
 - Fear of God, Ps. 1:1-3,
 - Servant leadership (humility) John 13:12-17, Phil. 2:5-11
 - Transparency, Ps. 24:3-5
 - Courage, Josh. 1:6-8
5. Point out the factors responsible for the poor attitude and performance of leaders in the following passages. 1Sam. 13:8-14, 15:7-11, 17-23; 1Kings 12:8-16, 25-33; 2Chron. 22:1-5, 10; 1Kings 21:1-16, 1Kings 16:29-33.



CONCLUSION

Many nations of the world, and Africa especially, are passing through very hard times due to lack of good leadership and poor governmental policies set up by ungodly, selfish and wicked men who manipulate their ways into office courtesy of grossly flawed electoral systems and practices. The current grave socio-political cum economic realities should be a clarion call on all bona fide citizens of the kingdom who are vested with the requisite grace to make up their minds and tread into the political arena for the long awaited change.

MEMORY VERSE

“When the righteous triumph, there is great elation, but when the wicked rise to power, men go into hiding.” (Prov. 28:12)

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Do you have a call to liberate your nation from the present pain?



STUDY 27

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES OF THE
NEW MAN IN HIS
ROLE RELATIONSHIPS

TOPIC:

ATTITUDES OF THE
NEW MAN TO
STRANGERS

TEXT:

LUKE 10:25-37

AIM:

To encourage believers to
show kindness to strangers.

INTRODUCTION

One of our most rewarding services as Christians is when we entertain, help, and defend strangers. Abraham, the acclaimed father of our faith, left us a very powerful example in this matter when he entertained angels without knowing it and thereupon received a very solid divine commitment which culminated in the birth of Isaac at a time when it seemed an impossible feat.

The current trend among Christians whereby strangers are abused, maltreated or discriminated against is certainly part of the many indications that the

Church is sick and misfocused. Believers need to take a cue from the Parable of the Good Samaritan with which Jesus sought to establish the importance of reaching out to people in need irrespective of who they are or where they come from.


STUDY GUIDES

1. Who is a stranger?
2. Why should Christians be good to strangers and in what ways? Heb. 13:1,2 Ps. 146:9a, Eph. 2:12-14, 19.
3. From the following passages discuss the various treatment meted out on the strangers and its impact on Christianity today. Exod. 2:18-22, Gen. 23:4-16; Gen. 26:7-22, 17-33, cf Luke 10:25-37.
4. In the face of economic recession and insecurity, is it possible to welcome, care for and entertain strangers in our homes? Gen. 19:1-3, Judges 6:19-21; 1Kings 17:7-15, Phil. 4:13-19; 2Cor. 8:1-5.
5. Read the story of the good Samaritan again give practical ways we can demonstrate godly attitude toward strangers and state their benefits. Matt. 25:34-46; Gal. 6:10, 1John 3:16-18, Gen. 18:1-5.

CONCLUSION

Real love for others, especially strangers, produces tangible action. In the Old Testament, people unwittingly entertained angels and received instant divine rewards for their actions. A good example is Abraham (Gen. 18:1ff). Some Christians may give various reasons why they cannot be hospitable, but the truth is that most of these excuses are borne out of some eccentric, selfish or parochial tendencies which are antithetical to the life of the new man. It is important to note here that whosoever would





please God and impact positively upon his generation must be one whose love for God and for mankind must be one without simulation, a love that is expressed through such actions as genuine kindness to strangers.

MEMORY VERSE

Heb. 13:2, "Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing, some have unwittingly entertained angels."

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Do you show sincere love and concern for strangers, especially those that are in need?



THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN
(1TIM. 3:15, 2THESS. 3:7)



SUB THEME E:

ATTITUDE/BEHAVIOUR
OF THE OLD MAN TO
PUT OFF



STUDY 28

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDE/BEHAVIOUR
OF THE OLD MAN TO
PUT OFF

TOPIC:

DISHONESTY,
DECEIT AND
HYPOCRISY

TEXT:

EPHESSIANS 4: 25-31,
Col. 3: 8,9

AIM:

To help participants see that dishonesty, deceit and hypocrisy are at variance with the character of the new man and should, therefore, be put off so the believer can truly reflect Christ in all spheres of life.

INTRODUCTION

Dishonesty, deceit and hypocrisy are moral vices which are evidently out of sync with the true character of the new man.

DISHONESTY: is a lack of honesty or integrity; a disposition to lie, cheat or steal.

DECEIT: This is the act or practice of deceiving; a tendency to deceive; the quality of being fraudulent.

HYPOCRISY: is the condition of a person pretending to be something he is not, especially in the area of morals or religion.

Apostle Paul strongly advised Christians to get rid of all malice, deceit, hypocrisy, envy and slander of every kind as these could hinder the spiritual growth of a believer. This study should enlighten us more on the imperativeness of

doing away with these vices and the consequences of harboring them in the believer's life.



STUDY GUIDE

1. Read the following passages and list the behaviours that the bible encourages us to put off, Ephesians 4:24-28, 1 Peter 2:1-2
2. From these scriptures identify the effects of dishonesty, deceit and hypocrisy Psalm 101:7, Pro 5:22, 10:9, Mark 7:22-23, 2 Tim 3:13, Pro 11:3, 29:4, 16:12, 14:17, 11:1, 10:9.
3. How do we put off these moral vices which are certainly proofs of the old man at work? 1 John 1:7, 1 Peter 2:1-3, James 4:8, 2 Peter 3:18, 1 John 2:5
4. What are the consequences of retaining these moral vices in the life of a Christian?
5. What are the benefits when we put off these traces of the old man?

CONCLUSION

Dishonesty, deceit and hypocrisy are sure manifestations of the old man at work in the individual who still parades them. These moral vices are sometimes coated with flashes of spirituality so much so that it may be difficult to discern them in an individual until one has a very close exchange with them. And whenever they rear their ugly heads, they do nothing but destroy the testimony of whoever unleashes them, no matter the level of your 'spirituality' or office in the Body of Christ.

MEMORY VERSE

Prov. 8:1, "All the words of my mouth are just; none of them is deceitful or perverse."

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Do you in anyway promote dishonesty, deceit and hypocrisy?



STUDY 29

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDE/BEHAVIOUR
OF THE OLD MAN TO
PUT OFF

TOPIC:

UNCONTROLLED
ANGER

TEXT:

ECCLESIASTES 7:9

AIM:


To assist brethren
understand the dire
consequences of uncontrolled
anger and the urgent need to
do away with it.

INTRODUCTION

Uncontrolled anger is defined as the exhibition of bitterness, rage and bad temper beyond control. The wise teacher counselled against allowing oneself to be quickly provoked as that is a crass display of foolishness (Ecc. 7: 9). More serious is the fact that uncontrolled anger can destroy in a moment what has taken us years to put in place. Calamities and disasters have befallen some people who did not deem it essential to control their anger. This study should help us appreciate the dire consequences of uncontrolled anger and the need to put it far away from our lives as Christians.

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do you understand by the term uncontrolled anger?
2. Mention the characteristics and manifestation of uncontrolled anger from this passage Genesis 34:25-30

- 
3. How does God see those who exhibit uncontrolled anger from these scriptures? Ecl.7:9, Pro.16:30, 20:3, 29:11, James 1:20, Pro. 15:18
 4. How do we overcome anger, (read these passages and explain) Phil 1:27, 2:12-14, Col 2:6-7, Col 3:8-10, Col 3:12-17, 1Thess 5:22, 2 Tim 3:16, Tit 2:1-2.
 5. What are the consequences of uncontrolled anger? 1 Thess 2:15, Pro 15:2, Pro 19:19, Pro 21:23, Pro 22:24.

CONCLUSION

The anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God but rather showcases the overwhelming influence of the old man James 1:20. One of the characters which clearly distinguish the new man in his role relationships is self- control. Anything short of this exposes the pervasive and domineering influence of the old man over the new, and is never without its dire consequences.

MEMORY VERSE

A fool gives full vent to his anger, but a wise man keeps himself under control.

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Do you still exhibit uncontrolled anger?



STUDY 30

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE

NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDE/BEHAVIOUR
OF THE OLD MAN TO
PUT OFF

TOPIC:

CARELESS TALK,
GOSSIP AND
SLANDER

TEXT:

EPHESIANS 4:29

AIM:

To encourage believers to
learn to exercise restraint in
the use of the tongue and
point out the dire
consequences in doing
otherwise.


INTRODUCTION

Careless talk means making utterances that are unhealthy, destructive and unreasonable. The word careless is the expression of an attitude that is devoid of good manners. Slander connotes the act of speaking ill of someone while gossip means telling stories about other people's private lives that may be unkind or untrue. Apostle Paul persuades the brethren in Ephesus not to allow any unwholesome talk come out of their mouth, but only what is helpful for the building of others according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

STUDY GUIDE

1. Explain with practical examples what you understand by the terms 'careless talk',

'gossip' and 'slander'.

- 
2. What are the causes of careless talk, gossip and slander from these passages 1 Tim 1:5-7, Pro 10: 18-20, 11:9-13
 3. What does God expect from us as Christians Titus 2:6-8, 2:11-12, 3:8, Col 4:6, Pro 21:23, 20:15
 4. What are the resultant effects of careless talk, gossip and slander? Titus 3:9, Pro 18:7, 26:18-22, 16:28, 20:19, 18:8, 11:13
 5. What are the benefits of exercising caution in talking? Pro 22:11, 10:21a, 10:31, 16:24

CONCLUSION

A child of God is partly distinguished by his or her utterances and is expected to show good example in all that he does, including the way he speaks. Words are extremely powerful and when used wrongly, often engender bad blood, confusion and disharmony. The new man chooses his words carefully and would not engage in any unwholesome talk or discussion.

MEMORY VERSE

He who loves a pure heart and whose speech is gracious will have the king for his friends.

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Are you in the habit of destroying people with your words?



STUDY 31

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDE/BEHAVIOUR
OF THE OLD MAN TO
PUT OFF

TOPIC:

**BITTERNESS,
MALICE AND
JEALOUSY**

TEXT:

PROVERBS. 27:4, .
JAMES 3: 13 – 16

AIM:

To help believers understand
the dangers in harboring
bitterness, malice and
jealousy and the urgent need
to kick them out of our lives
so we can be better
ambassadors of Christ in our
role relationships.

INTRODUCTION

Bitterness, malice and jealousy are some of the attitudes/ characters of the old man that we need to do away with in our lives and in the body of Christ. Bitterness is a feeling of anger and unhappiness over unfair treatment.

Malice is the desire to cause pain, injury, or distress to another. Jealousy means someone feeling unhappy because somebody you like or love is showing interest in somebody else or is liked by someone else. It is also feeling angry or unhappy because you wish you had something that somebody else has. Each of these is naturally malignant in their make-up and approach and, therefore, inconsistent with the character of the new man. This study should enlighten us more on this

subject matter.

STUDY GUIDE

1. Explain in your own words what you understand by the words bitterness, malice or jealousy from the following passages; Prov. 27:4, James 3:13 – 16, Titus 3:3
2. Identify and discuss cases of bitterness, malice or jealousy from these passages ? Gen. 4: 4 – 11, Gen 37:18 – 28, 2 Samuel 13: 19 – 33
3. What are the likely consequences of bitterness, hatred and malice in our lives? 2 Sam 13: 26 – 28, Gen 37: 18 – 20, Mathew 15: 11, Math 6:15, Ex 32:19
4. How can we get rid of bitterness, hatred and Jealousy from our lives? John 3:16; Math 6: 15; Psalm 119: 9 – 10, Prov. 4: 23, Rom 8: 1 – 2.

CONCLUSION

As believers, we must seek the help of God to rid ourselves of bitterness, hatred and Jealousy. These traits are the property of the devil and should have no place in the lives of children of God.

MEMORY VERSE

Pro 27: 4 “Wrath is cruel and anger is outrageous but who is able to stand before envy?”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Can you honestly say that you are free from bitterness, hatred and Jealousy?



STUDY 32

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDE/BEHAVIOUR
OF THE OLD MAN TO
PUT OFF

TOPIC:

DISCRIMINATION

TEXT:

LEVITICUS. 19:15,
JAMES 3:17 (NIV)

AIM:

To help us recognize the
need of getting rid of
discriminatory tendencies
from our lives and in the
Church of God


INTRODUCTION

Discrimination is one attitude that has become endemic in the body of Christ and must be done away with completely if the body of Christ is to be what she should be- the salt of the earth and light of the world.

Discrimination is the practice of unfairly treating somebody or a particular group of persons in society differently from other people. Discrimination comes in various shades, colours and dimensions and has been the bane of the Church. In this study we shall see how we can get rid of this monster from the body of Christ.

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do you understand discrimination to mean from the following passages? Lev. 19:15, 1 Tim 5: 20 – 21, James 2: 1 – 4, James 3: 17,
2. Read the following passages and identify cases of discrimination? James 2: 1 – 6, Esther 3: 3 – 10, Gen 26: 15 – 22, Acts 6:1-2,

- 
3. What are the consequences of discrimination in the Body of Christ? Discuss
 4. How can we get rid of discrimination? John 3: 16, 10: 12, Eph. 4: 3 – 6, Mathew 26: 41

CONCLUSION

This study calls on us to get rid of class consciousness, tribalism, party spirit, and all other forms of discrimination in the Church. Until Christians get to the point in their spirituality where all parochial tendencies are flushed out and judgements/decisions are made dispassionately, irrespective of whose ox is gored, all claims to the newness of life would be hypocritical.

MEMORY VERSE

Lev. 19:15b. Thou shall not respect the person of the poor nor honour the person of the mighty but in Righteousness shall thou judge thy neighbour.

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Do you discriminate? Please do away with it.



STUDY 33

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDE/BEHAVIOUR
OF THE OLD MAN TO
PUT OFF

TOPIC:

LAZINESS,
SLOTHFULNESS
AND COMPLACENCY

TEXT:

PROVERBS. 26: 13 – 16,
MATTHEW 25: 24 – 30

AIM:


To help believers understand the destructive implications of laziness, slothfulness and complacency and the need to quickly disengage oneself from their reproachful dispositions.

INTRODUCTION

Laziness, simply defined, is inactivity resulting from a dislike of work; disinclination to or dislike for activity or exertion despite having the ability to do so. Slothfulness has to do with habit of being lazy and unwilling to work. Complacency is a feeling of satisfaction with yourself or with a situation, so that you do not think any change is necessary. In this study, we shall learn how we can do away with these.

STUDY GUIDE

1. What can we learn about laziness, slothfulness and complacency from the following passages; Rom 12:11, prov. 26: 13 – 16, Math 25: 24, 1 Tim. 5: 13, Prov. 15: 19, Prov. 18: 9
2. Still from the above passages, identify and discuss the consequences of laziness, slothfulness and complacency in a person's life?

- 
3. How can one overcome laziness, slothfulness and complacency? Prov. 6: 6 – 9, Prov. 10: 4 – 5, Prov. 13:4, Prov. 12: 24, Math. 7:7, Prov. 21:5
 4. In the light of the subject of our discussion, what can you deduce from the following scriptures? Eph. 5: 15 – 16, Col. 3: 23, 1 Thess. 4: 11, Prov. 31: 13, 16 – 17, 1 Tim 5: 8

CONCLUSION

Brethren are here entreated to put away laziness, slothfulness and complacency as these would only breed poverty, lack and loneliness. We must take a cue from our Lord Jesus, the apostles and most other Church fathers who trod the lengths and breadths of the earth proclaiming the gospel and making disciples even in the face of all manner of opposition and hindrances which accosted them wherever they went. Again, despite his busy schedules in ministry, Paul devoted whatever spare time he had to tent making through which he earned his living and committed himself to taking care of some indigent brethren that flocked around him.

MEMORY VERSE

Prov. 12:24. "Work hard and become a leader, be lazy and become a slave."

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Are you lazy? If yes, ask God for the enabling grace to put away the spirit of laziness.



STUDY 34

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE

NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES/BEHAVIOUR
OF THE OLD MAN TO
PUT OFF

TOPIC:

PRIDE, STUBBORNNESS
AND DISRESPECT
FOR AUTHORITY.

TEXT:

ROM. 12: 1-5,
1THESS. 5:12-13.

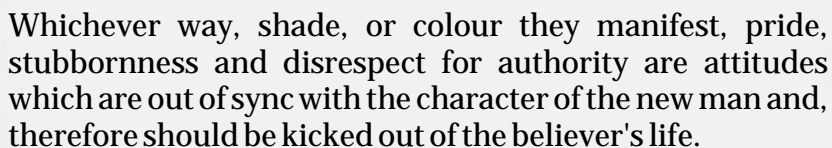
AIMS:

To acquaint brethren with knowledge of the subtle reasons for defeat, loss and failure that exists in the killer attitude of pride, stubbornness and disrespect for authority, and how believers can step out of their evil trappings and flow seamlessly and victoriously in the true character of the new man.

INTRODUCTION


Pride involves self-exaltation, haughtiness, conceit and presumption; "Thinking more highly of oneself than one ought to" (Rom. 12:3). It is unreasonable and inordinate self-esteem, an orientation contrary to the character of God and aptly personified as one of the deadly sins.

Stubbornness is the trait of being difficult to handle; refusing to change one's mind or cause of action despite pressure to do so; resolute adherence to your own ideas or desires. It is exhibited in hardening of the heart, resisting the Holy Ghost (Acts 7:51) and refusing correction. Etc. Disrespect for authority is an expression of lack of respect for those in authority. It is a contemptuous mental attitude that is generally disrespectful to and can go to any length to defy constituted authority.



1. What is pride, stubbornness and disrespect for authority? How could they be identified? Prov. 1:24-25 Deut. 21:28 Neh. 9:16 Rom. 11:20; 1:30 Jn. 5:4.
2. Pride, stubbornness and disrespect for authority are clearly out of sync with the scriptural prescriptions for the life of the new man? Discuss this in the light of the following scriptures. Jam. 4:6, Pro. 29: 1, Phi. 2: 3, 1 Pet. 5: 5, Rom. 13: 1-7
3. What are the consequences of carrying these attitudinal vices into any kind of relationship in any sphere of society? Pro. 29: 1, Rom. 13: 2-4, Pro. 16: 18, Pro. 11: 12
4. What practical steps should one take in putting-off these evil/negative attitudes. 1 Pet. 5:5-7; Heb. 13:17-19; 1 Cor. 1:31; Prov. 3:5-7.

It is very clear from this study that the tripartite vices of pride, stubbornness and disrespect for authority are evil winds that leave on their trail, failure, stagnation and destruction, and should, therefore, not be given undue place in the life of the believer. It is important to always remember that every authority that exists at the



family, the church, work place, community, state, etc, has very strong divine approval and should as such be respected and supported.

MEMORY VERSE

Rom. 13:2 (NCV)- “Those who are against the government are really against what God has commanded. And they will bring punishment against themselves.”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

How is your attitude toward constituted authority?

STUDY 35

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES/BEHAVIOUR
OF THE OLD MAN TO
PUT OFF

TOPIC:

**SEXUAL
IMMORALITY/
PERVERSION**

TEXT:

ROM. 1:21-32,
LEV.18:1- 30

AIM:

To help participants fully understand the meaning and ills of sexual perversions and to proffer ways one can stay free from sexual perversion.

INTRODUCTION


Sexual immorality is the “selling off” of sexual purity and involves any type of sexual expression outside the boundaries of a biblically defined marriage relationship (Matthew 19:4–5).

Satan twists things. Every good thing that God created, Satan works to pervert. God created sexuality and called it good (Genesis 1:27-28, 31).

Sexual perversion is a condition in which sexual excitement is associated with acts or imagery that are considered unusual within the culture or religion.


STUDY QUESTIONS

1a. What do you understand by sexual immorality/ perversion? Cite contemporary examples.

- 
- b. Compare the level of sexual perversion of Bible times with contemporary times; which is worse? 5 Suggest reasons for your opinion.
- 2a. Identify the different forms of sexual behaviour with their consequences mentioned in the following Bible references: Leviticus 18:23, 20. Romans 1:27; Jer.13:27; 1Cor. 6:9-10. Heb.13:4. Rev.21:8. Prov. 6:24-35.
- b. How can the following factors promote sexual perversion and how may they be checked?
- i) Sexual thoughts/fantasies
 - ii) Exposure to pornography
 - iii) Materialism/greed.
3. In what ways can we resist sexual immorality. Deut. 6:19 Eccl.7:7 Prov. 7:1-5. 1Cor. 6:18. 2Tim.2:22

CONCLUSION

Sexuality is God's design. He alone can define the parameters for its use. The Bible is clear that sex was created to be enjoyed between one man and one woman who are in a covenant marriage until one of them dies (Matthew 19:6). Sexuality is His sacred wedding gift to human beings. Any expression of it outside those parameters constitutes abuse of God's gift. Abuse is the use of people or things in ways they were not designed to be used. The Bible calls this sin.



Adultery, premarital sex, pornography, and homosexual relations are all outside God's design, which makes them sin.

MEMORY VERSE

1 Cor.6:18, "Flee fornication. Every sin a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body"

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Are you truly Free from sexual pervasion?



T H E M E :

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN
.(1TIM. 3:15, 2THESS. 3:7)



SUB THEME F:

ATTITUDES/BEHAVIOURS
OF THE NEW MAN TO
PUT ON



STUDY 36

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME 6:

ATTITUDES/BEHAVIOURS
OF THE NEW MAN TO
PUT ON

TOPIC:

LOVE

TEXT:

1 JOHN 4:7-21;
COLOSSIANS. 3:12-15

AIM:

To help the New Man know
that God is love, and that
Love, is the acid test of the
new birth experience.

INTRODUCTION

Love is a primary characteristic of God and, therefore, the ultimate character of the believer in Christ Jesus. In 1 Corinthians 13, the apostle Paul declares unequivocally that whatever one does which is not borne out of love is a sheer display of hypocrisy.

The new man is created to be like Christ. As such, in order to really portray Christ in all his role relationships, the new man must clothe himself with love, which holds all the other Christian virtues like mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forbearance, forgiveness, etc, together in perfect unity..

As God's special children, made in His image and likeness, we are expected to consistently exhibit

God's character and nature, thus confirming that we are His workmanship specially ordained in Christ Jesus for the display of His splendour.



STUDY GUIDE

1. What do you understand by LOVE?
 - b. In the light of 1 Cor. 13:4-7, identify the characteristics of love.
2. As a new man, why is it necessary to love? Jn 15:12; 13:34-35; 1 Jn 4:11-12; Col. 3:12-15
3. How can the new man truly show love for fellow believers in Christ, and unbelievers alike? Rom. 9:1-3; 1 Jn. 3:11-12, 18; James 2 :14-20; Matt 28:18-20; 2 Cor. 5:11; Heb. 13:1-3; Gal. 6:10
4. What Lessons Can We draw from the following scriptures? 1 John 4:18, 20; John 3:16, Lk 10:25-28; James 4:17.
5. How would you assess your local church's commitment to the issue of modelling genuine love amongst brethren and in the wider society?

CONCLUSION

Our Christian experience is made perfect in love for God and our fellow men. Love is the fulfilling of the law. Jesus said, "love one another; by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples". (Jn. 13:34-35). It is important to cap this study by reminding us that the Christian faith works by love.

MEMORY VERSE

1John 4:8, "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Do you truly show love to others?



STUDY 37

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES/BEHAVIOURS
OF THE NEW MAN TO
PUT ON

TOPIC:

FORBEARING &
FORGIVING
ONE ANOTHER

TEXT:

EPHESIANS. 4: 1-3,
31 - 32

AIM:

To make participants know that in as much as offences must surely come, it is equally incumbent on the new man in Christ to forbear and forgive irrespective of the nature or weight of the offence.

INTRODUCTION

Forbearing one another in love is one of the six exhortations of Apostle Paul to the Ephesians 4:1-3. To forbear is to be tolerant or patient in the face of provocation. (Wikipedia). To forgive is to give up resentment against or stop wanting to punish someone for an offence or fault (Wikipedia). The new man must have the ability to analyze certain human errors and excesses in the light of what they really are, and be able to comprehend as Jesus did when He looked at His oppressors from the cross and reasoned that “they know not what they are doing.” It is on the strength of that insight that forgiveness can be more easily extended by the new man to any offender irrespective of what they have done. We

shall gain more insight in the course of this study.

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do you understand by forbearing and forgiving one another?
2. In the light of the topic, explain the following scriptures: Eph. 4:1-3, 31-32; Rom. 5:8; Rom 12:17a,
3. As a New Man, do you have somebody you need to forbear and forgive? Be sincere!
4. Do you think it is necessary to forbear and forgive one another? Give reasons for your answer. Matt. 6:12, Rom. 12:14-21, Col. 3:13-14.
5. Are there inherent dangers in not forbearing and forgiving one another? Point them out, Matt 6:15; Matt 18:28-35; 5:7; Jn 15:7; Matt 6:14-15.

CONCLUSION

Beloved, the Lord has called us to live at peace with all men and to recompense to no man, evil for evil. A lot of us read, teach and preach this scripture without practising it. One must note that any act that negates God's Word has eternal consequences. Be wise and follow God's laid down principles as a true Christians who have eternity in view.

MEMORY VERSE

Eph. 4:2 "With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love."

EXAMINE YOURSELF

As a New Man or Woman, do you still harbor unforgiveness in your life?



STUDY 38

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES/BEHAVIOURS
OF THE NEW MAN TO
PUT ON

TOPIC:

**HOSPITALITY &
GENEROSITY**

TEXT:

MATTHEW. 25:31-46

AIM:

To help us imbibe the spirit
and grace of hospitality and
generosity.

INTRODUCTION

Hospitality is a friendly and generous behavior or cordial reception towards guests or strangers. Generosity is the act of being generous, that is, willing to give somebody money, gifts, time or kindness freely. God expects us to be hospitable and generous. Both of these virtues involve using whatever God has given you to serve Him. Romans 12:13 says, "Distributing to the necessity of Saints; given to hospitality". By this, we are called to contribute to needy brethren and make a practice of hospitality. Hospitality and generosity involve taking good care of God's

servants, widows/widowers, orphans, strangers etc. According to James 1:27; pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction...

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do you understand by the terms Hospitality and Generosity?
2. What is God's concept (idea) about hospitality and generosity? Matt. 25:34- 40; Rom 12:13; 1 Tim 3:2; Acts 2:44 – 47; Titus 1:7 – 8; 1 Peter 4:9.
3. From the following scriptures what can you say about the characters of the people mentioned. 2 Kings 4:8 – 11; Gen 18:2-8; compare with Heb 13:2.
4. What are the benefits and rewards of hospitality and generosity? Heb 13:2; Matt 25:35-40; 2 Kings 4:12-17.
5. Are there factors that sometimes work against our being hospitable or generous? Discuss with practical experiences. Cf. Lk 10:30-35.

CONCLUSION

For the new man, the need for hospitality and generosity cannot be over-emphasized. This is one of the marks of true Christianity. We are called to be hospitable and generous; however, this should be exhibited with utmost discernment and sensitivity to the Holy Spirit to avoid regrets.

MEMORY VERSE

Rom. 12:13 “Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality”.

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Can you truly say you are being generous and hospitable.



STUDY 39

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES/BEHAVIOURS
OF THE NEW MAN TO
PUT ON

TOPIC:

RECOMPENSING
GOOD FOR EVIL

TEXT:

ROMANS. 12:17-21

AIM:


To remind believers that victory through life's challenges does not come by being vengeful and that the mark of a genuine believer in Christ includes being good to all irrespective of how badly they treat you.

INTRODUCTION

The word recompense means simply to pay in return or to pay back. Recompensing good for evil means we don't have to seek vengeance for the wrongs done to us by others but must, like our Lord Jesus Christ, match their evil with the utmost good. The new man views and responds to all life's issues as Jesus would, and that includes his attitudes toward all offenders. As such, rather than uphold and operate the Mosaic principle; 'tooth for tooth and eye for eye', he finds greater fulfilment in the Pauline principle; "When your enemy is hungry, give him something to eat....."

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do you understand by the phrase "recompensing good for evil?"
2. Why should believers recompense good for evil? 1 Thess. 5:5; 1 John 3:8-11, Rom. 8:35-39, Luke 6: 27.

- 
3. In what practical ways can believers recompense good for evil? Rom. 12; 19-21, Matt. 5: 38-48
 4. What eternal or immediate rewards do we expect by being obedient to this command? Matt. 5: 44,45, Prov. 20:22; Jer. 25:14;; Acts 7:54-60.
 5. In the light of the scriptures here cited, how would you react to the pervading teaching which encourages believers to pray for the death of all their enemies?

CONCLUSION

Being fully persuaded that God takes no pleasure in the death of sinners but desires strongly that they may repent and save their souls alive, the new man would rather suffer light afflictions and injustice than indulge in whatever doctrine that upholds recompensing evil for evil.

MEMORY VERSE

Rom. 12: 21 (NIV). "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good".

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Whose principle do you believe and uphold in this matter, Moses or Jesus?

STUDY 40

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES/BEHAVIOURS
OF THE NEW MAN TO
PUT ON

TOPIC:

ESTEEMING AND
PREFERRING
OTHERS IN LOVE

TEXT:

ROMANS. 12:10

AIM:

To teach believers that
Christian maturity puts on
the garbs of humility, cares
less about self-exaltation, and
puts high premium on
esteeming and preferring
others in love.


INTRODUCTION

According to the Collins English Dictionary - Complete and Unabridged, 12th Edition, 2014, "ESTEEM" means to have great respect or high regard for; while "PREFER" is defined as to like better or value more highly. It does seem that Apostle Paul was telling the believers in Rome at that time to have respect or high regard for others and to like or value others more highly than themselves. In this study, we shall consider how and why this admonition is important to the present Church.

STUDY GUIDE

1. Explain the meaning of esteeming and preferring others in love. What extended

meaning did Paul give to love in 1Corinthians Chapter 13, which seems different from the ordinary usage in this contemporary times?

- 
2. Paul could have summarized this admonition “esteeming and preferring others” without adding “in love.” Of what significance is that phrase “in love” to this subject matter, “esteeming and preferring others?”
 3. Why and how can believers esteem and prefer others in love? Give practical examples. Gen 13:8; Matt. 7:12; Prov. 21:21; Luke 5:17-26, 10:25-37; 1 Cor. 10:23-24, 12:12-15
 4. Give scriptural examples of those that esteemed and preferred others in love. How were they rewarded? Gen 13:8; Ruth 2; Phil 2:3-11;

CONCLUSION

Esteeming and preferring one another in love is the first spiritual pavestone towards healing and mending, releasing and empowering, connecting and loving. It is the way of Jesus and the substance by which we are saved. It was the driving force that engendered the unprecedented growth of the early church. If we wholly consider this admonition, “being right” will take the back seat of our homes and churches, the way we communicate or relate with others will change, churches will regain their prophetic voice, marriages will leap back to life”.

MEMORY VERSE

Rom 12:10, KJV, “Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love, in honour preferring one another”.

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Where would you be today, if all you cared about is yourself. Do you know that we all need each other to survive? Have you considered this proposal “I prefer you, and you prefer me, and everyone wins?”

STUDY 41

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES/BEHAVIOURS
OF THE NEW MAN TO
PUT ON

TOPIC:

TEAM SPIRIT

TEXT:

NEHEMIAH 4:1-23

AIM:

To help the brethren understand the need for team spirit in all spheres of human endeavor and to, therefore, develop the urge to inculcate in each of us this laudable spirit for more effective ministry and greater productivity in all walks of life.

INTRODUCTION

Those of us, who have played in a football team, would realize that there are 11 players manning 11 different positions on the field of play. How many of us can conveniently identify the most important position. In reality, the answer is that, every player's position is important. The same is true in the body of Christ. Accordingly, team spirit could be defined as the willingness of each member of a team or group to work together with diligence, loyalty and enthusiasm for the group's success. In this study we will learn that each part of the body of Christ is indispensable.

STUDY GUIDE

1. In your own language, explain what you understand

by the concept “team spirit?”

2. Why is team spirit necessary in our local churches? Prov. 27:17; Eccles. 4:9-12; Romans 12:4, 1 Cor. 1:10, 12:20-25; Eph. 4:11-12, 16; 1 Peter 4:10;
3. How can we build team spirit amongst the various groups in the church? The application of the 8 values of "T.E.A.M. W.O.R.K." is well deserved.
- a. T- TRUST/DELEGATION OF WORK
 - b. E- ECONOMY OF ENERGY/COMPENSATE OR MAKE WORK A FUN; Prov. 14:30
 - c. A- AFFIRMATION/ENCOURAGEMENT
 - d. MANAGEMENT OF MISTAKE/MISTAKES ARE NOT FAILURES; Prov. 24:16
 - e. WEEKLY CHURCH MEETINGS; Hebrew 10:25
 - f. OPEN COMMUNICATION; Prov. 13:17 [presumption, impatience and pride are known barriers]
 - g. RECOGNITION AND REWARD; Romans 13:7
 - h. KEEP ON LEARNING; Prov. 18:1
4. What are the major killers of team spirit in the Church? Romans 12:16; Matt. 23:8; Eph. 2:14, Gal. 3:26-28

CONCLUSION

As godly men strive to build the church of God by keeping the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace; some "other men in the house" attack the very root of this unity by causing mischief, division, disaffection and dissension. Like Nehemiah and his companions, let us arise, build and protect our unity and faith, for the devil and his destructive armies are on the prowl. But we are able and ready to conquer because together we can move the mountain.

MEMORY VERSE

Eph. 4:3, (NIV). "Make every effort to keep the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace"

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Do you build the Church of God or tear it apart. Think about it.



STUDY 42

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE

NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES/BEHAVIOURS
OF THE NEW MAN TO
PUT ON

TOPIC:

**SUBMITTING
TO
AUTHORITY**

TEXT:

ROMANS.13:1-5,
1PETER 2:13-17,
EPHESIANS.6:1-9

AIM:

To make the brethren realize
much more the need to
submit to authority.

INTRODUCTION

The natural man is stubborn and rebellious and will not regard any authority because it hinders what his evil imaginations want to do. He questions it, tries to find faults with it, ridicules it and even makes excuses to justify himself in his own eyes so that he does not have to yield to the authority over him.

Submit means 'to yield or give way to another'. Authority refers to power to enforce rules or give orders. It could also refer to a person accepted as a source of reliable information on a subject.

Submitting to authority thus means yielding to persons or powers put in place to enforce rules that govern a place, people, church, family etc. The scripture makes it

obvious that it is right and a command from the Lord that we are subject to those who are placed in position to enforce rules and regulations over us.

STUDY GUIDE

1. In your own word, what do you understand by the phrase submitting to higher authority and how has that impacted on your personality?
2. Why should we submit to authorities? Gen.9:5-6, 1Pe. 2:14, 1Pe. 2:13, Rom.13:4, 1Pe. 2:16-17, Eph.6:8, Eph.6:2-3
3. Who/What are the authorities we should submit to? Eph.6:1-8, Rom.13:1-4, Eph.5:24,
4. In what ways have you experienced ungodly authority and how did you respond to it? How can we seek to honor God better in those situations?
5. Why did God place authorities over us and what are they meant to achieve in our lives?

CONCLUSION

While we are citizens of God's kingdom, it does not mean we can ignore earthly authorities. We don't live above the laws of the land. As Christians we must submit to them just as everyone else does.

MEMORY VERSE

Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Rom.13:1

EXAMINE YOURSELF

How do you plan on implementing this in your daily life?



STUDY 43

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES/BEHAVIOURS
OF THE NEW MAN TO
PUT ON

TOPIC:

COMMITMENT
TO
EXCELLENCE

TEXT:

DANIEL 6:3,
COLOSSIANS 3:23-24,
ECCL:9:10

AIM:

To let people know that we
should not relent in putting
in our best in all our services
to the Lord.

INTRODUCTION

Excellence is having a good quality in an unusual degree. It is the state of possessing good qualities in a remarkable degree. Commitment is a state of being bound emotionally/intellectually to a course of action. Thus commitment to excellence is a state of being bound emotionally/intellectually to possessing good qualities in a remarkable degree.

Excellence does not happen by accident. It is a deliberate effort or action, it is well thought out, planned, executed and it shows up in the details. Aristotle said 'we are what we repeatedly do. So excellence is a lifestyle, it is not an act, and it is a habit. Commitment to excellence is one of the

various behaviours expected of the new man to put on.

STUDY GUIDE

- 1 a. What is commitment to excellence? Explain in the light of Matt.5:13-16; 2Tim. 2:15
- b. What would you say made Daniel to be so preferred in his place of assignment?
2. In what ways can we show commitment to excellence? Prov.22:29, 8:6-9, Col.3:23-24, Eccl.9:10
3. Commitment to Excellence requires hard work. Discuss. Eph.5:15, 2Tim 2:15, Prov.6:6-10, Dan.1:8
4. What is the reward for commitment to excellence? Prov.22:29, Dan.6:1-2, Gal.6:7

CONCLUSION

Rather than contentment with mediocrity, we should pursue to excellence in whatever we do. It makes a big difference how high our goals are in the work we do. Les Brown said "Shoot for the moon and if you miss, you will fall among the stars." Indeed nothing but the best is good enough for the Lord who gave His life for us.

MEMORY VERSE

Prov. 22:29, "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men".

EXAMINE YOURSELF

What is the worth of your service to the Lord?



STUDY 44

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES/BEHAVIOURS
OF THE NEW MAN TO
PUT ON

TOPIC:

**CARE FOR
MINISTERS**

TEXT:

HEBREWS.13:17,
2 KINGS 4:8-17

AIM:

To make us realize the high
priority that God places over
the church for the care of His
ministers.

INTRODUCTION


Ministers are God's gift to the church, they have been given to the church to help strengthen the spiritual life of the church, help her grow to the fullness of the stature of Christ. (Eph.4:13)

The endless demands of church growth, projects and growing healthy vibrant people of faith place a lot of pressure on ministers and their families. Ministers need therefore to be equipped and resourced to facilitate healthy leadership.

When we show care for the ministers of God, it demonstrates that we have God at heart.

STUDY GUIDE

1. In your own word,
w h a t d o y o u
understand the care for ministers to mean? Do you have personal experience in caring for your pastor?
2. How can we care for ministers? Lk 8:2-3, Phil.4:18, 1Cor.9:13-14, 1Thess.5:12-13

- 
3. Discuss these biblical examples of those who cared for ministers: Matt.26:7, 2Kgs 4:8-11, Phil.2:25, Phil.4:18
 4. What are the benefits of caring for ministers of the gospel:2 Kgs. 4:13, 16,
 5. Is there anything we stand to loose if we do not care for our minsters?

CONCLUSION

As long as the church and the work of God continue, the care of God's ministers remains inevitable. Be determined to pray for and care for your pastor and his family, and allow the Lord to work in and through you by encouraging other families to do the same. Your simple efforts will do much to advance the cause of Christ in your church and community as God does a mighty work in and through your pastor. May your prayers and those of many others in your church, along with expressions of kindness, care and appreciation, keep ministers and their families safe, joyful and productive at all times, to the glory and honor of Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

MEMORY VERSE

Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour especially those who labour in the word and doctrine. 1Tim. 5:17

EXAMINE YOURSELF

How are you presently caring for God's minsters?

STUDY 45

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE

NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES/BEHAVIOURS
OF THE NEW MAN TO
PUT ON

TOPIC:

SENSE OF
URGENCY IN
GOD'S SERVICE

TEXT:

JOHN 9: 4;
JOHN 4: 35-37;
1 SAM. 21: 8

AIM:

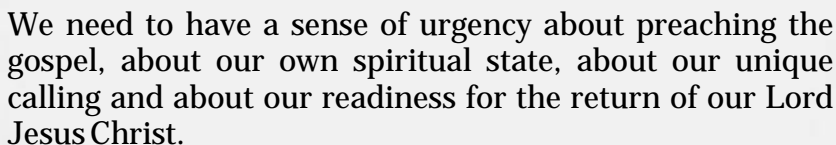
To help Christians develop a deep sense of value and appreciation to the services God has called them to and to appropriately discharge them with the speed and dispatch they require.

INTRODUCTION

A sense of urgency could be defined as living or doing a task committed to us with serious consideration to time. It is an attitude of speedy response to assigned tasks; a measure of our priority and value for the work over and above all other things. It is also a measure of the value and respect we have for the One who has called us to his service. Since it's a measure as to time and value, if we value God's service, we must respond to it with the speed and dispatch it requires (1 Sam. 21: 8b).

In God's service, time is of great essence and in view of that, our assigned duties cannot just be put off or delayed or even be handled with levity, especially in these last days where worldliness is on the increase. Sense of

urgency in God's service will enable us tackle issues that are important, redeeming the time and working as per time.



1. A sense of urgency is an attitude of priority and value to service. In your own words, how would you further explain it?
2. From the following Scriptures, why must we show a sense of urgency in the discharge of our services to God? Eph. 5: 15-16; Eccl. 3:1; Eccl. 9: 10; Acts 20: 24; John 4: 34-36; John 9: 4; Matt. 9: 37
3. When we show sense of urgency in the discharge of our duties, what are the benefits to you, to the Church, to the world and to God? Luke 19: 8-9; 16-17; 2 Tim. 4: 7-8; 1 Pet. 5: 2-4; Acts 2: 40-41; Acts 6: 7
4. What are the consequences of failing to serve with a sense of urgency? Matt. 25: 26-30.

The ultimate end of our service to God here on earth is to receive the crown of glory and that royal pat on the back. And this comes with a sense of accomplishment in us. Knowing and yielding to the call of God to serve is important, but of more importance is the attitude we put on while serving. That is what makes the difference.

Jn. 9: 4 NIV “As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work”

The Lord's business in this present age is urgent. How have you been responding to it?



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DIOCESE OF EVO QUARTERLY PRAYER POINTS

PRAYER POINTS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER

1. Appreciate God for all His blessings, Grace and Favour He has showered on us.
2. Pray for the ordination retreat of those to be ordained holding on 9th – 14th and the ordination Service on 15th October at St. Jude Oginigba. Ask the Lord to Baptize those to be Ordained with His Spirit.
3. Adult Sunday School/Bible week holds in all our Churches from Monday 23rd – Sunday 29th October. Pray that the word of God will grow and prevail in the hearts of everyone in our Churches.
4. Pray for Journey mercies for all persons traveling for DIVCCON. As the programme begins from Monday 13th – Friday 17th November, may the Lord encounter His people in a remarkable way.
5. Pray for the success of Diocesan Women Conference/ Harvest thanksgiving that will hold at St. Mathias Atali, on Thursday 30th – Sunday 3rd December.
6. Pray for the success of the last Diocesan Board Meetings holding on Tuesday 19th – Wednesday 20th December.
7. Pray for the last Diocesan Night Vigil with Holy Communion holding on Friday 22nd December. Pray and ask the Lord to shower His special blessing upon all that will attend.
8. Pray for the success of the Diocesan Christmas Carol of nine Lessons on Sunday 24th at the Bishop's Court.



OCTOBER 2017

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL MANUAL

CHURCH OF NIGERIA QUARTERLY PRAYER DAY

PRAYER POINTS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER

1. Thank God for His guidance these 57 years as an independent nation.
2. Thank God for defeating your foes and giving you victory over challenges of life
3. Confess your sins of lack of faith and unbelief in God.
4. Pray for government officials at the Federal, State and Local government. Pray for the President, his Vice, members of legislature both Federal and State, members of Judiciary and State government. Pray that the Spirit of God will direct their policies and its implementation for the benefit of the masses.
5. Pray against Boko Haram and its Sponsors. Pray that God will frustrate their efforts and agenda.
6. Pray for God to assist the government in fighting corruption. Pray for all the agencies that fight corruption. Pray that it would not be political witch-hunt.
7. Pray for the success of DIWCON this year. Pray for all the resource persons and participants.
8. Pray that God will keep them safe as they come and go.
9. Thank God for the year ending and ask Him to keep us safe in the coming year. Pray and cancel every cause of leaking blessings in your life, business and career.

STUDY 46

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDES/BEHAVIOURS
OF THE NEW MAN TO
PUT ON

TOPIC:

INTEGRITY

TEXT:

JOB 2: 3; Job 27: 5-6;
Prov. 2: 20-21

AIM:

To help Christians understand and appreciate the value of integrity in their walk with and work for the Lord and in all kinds of relationships with one another.


INTRODUCTION

Integrity has been defined by Wikipedia as the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles or moral uprightness. It is generally a personal choice to hold oneself to consistent moral and ethical standards. In ethics, integrity is regarded by many people as the honesty and truthfulness or accuracy of one's actions. Integrity means following your moral or ethical convictions and doing the right thing in all circumstances, even if no one is watching you.

STUDY GUIDES

1. In your own words, explain what you understand by

integrity. Read Job 2: 3, how much are you touched to live a life of integrity like Job?.

- 
2. From the following Scriptures, why is it important to live a life of integrity? Job 2:3; Prov. 11:3; 1 Peter 3: 16; Prov. 12:22; 1 Corinth 9: 27; Titus 2: 5b. Are there other benefits?.
 3. Identify and discuss in the light of the following scriptures how we can live a life of integrity as Christians. Zech. 4: 6; Gal. 5: 16; Psalm 119: 9-11; 2 Corinth 5: 15; Col. 3: 1-3; Gen. 39: 9b
 4. Discuss how integrity can help us excel in the following: Church growth, business dealings, politics, in times of difficulty (Read Job 27: 5-6; Psalm 15: 2-4; Daniel 6: 1-4).

CONCLUSION

We are created for godly relationships. And we are also created to serve one another in love for mutual benefits. It is integrity that brings us together and keeps us together- making it possible for us to trust one another and to keep relating with one another. Without integrity, it is also difficult for God to deal with us and trust us with Himself. More than anything else, we must cultivate, develop and uphold our integrity at all times.

MEMORY VERSE

Job 2: 5 NIV, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God, and shuns evil. And he still maintains his integrity"

EXAMINE YOURSELF

What would God and others say about your life now?



THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN
(1TIM. 3:15, 2THESS. 3:7)



SUB THEME F:

ATTITUDE OF THE
NEW MAN IN
CONFLICT SITUATION



STUDY 47

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDE OF THE
NEW MAN IN
CONFLICT SITUATION

TOPIC:

ATTITUDE OF THE
NEW MAN IN CONFLICT
SITUATION: CLERGY
VERSUS LAITY CONFLICTS

TEXT:

EPH 4:1-5;
JAMES 4:1-10

AIM:

To stir up perfect harmony
between the clergy and laity in
the body of Christ.

INTRODUCTION

Clergy is a body of persons who are trained and ordained for religious services. They are responsible for formulating, interpreting, preserving the traditions, and doctrines of the church, and presiding over the worship and pastoral concerns of their communities.

According to the biblical injunction (1 peter 5:2;) Clergy are to “feed the flock of God, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly, not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind.” They are to model humility, meekness, peace, patience and tolerance as they discharge their responsibilities.

Laity (un-ordained) on the other hand, are to respect the spiritual authority over them. Once there is short fall in these roles, conflict situations will definitely ensue.

This study, we will critically analyze the various conflict

situations between clergy and laity, the causes and what should be the biblical response of the new man in tackling them.

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do you understand by the term 'conflict situation' between the clergy and the laity?
2. From the following scriptures (Num.12; 1-15; 14:1-20; Act 6:1-7; highlight various clergy versus laity conflict situations that arose and how they were tackled?
3. What should be the role of the new man in resolving issues between clergy and laity?
 - a. As a clergy man
 - b. as a lay man in the Church (Eph.4:1-3; Matt.5:3-13).
4. What are the practical implications of unresolved conflict situations between clergy and laity?

CONCLUSION

The conflict situation between clergy and laity is a situation in which the led and the leader who are supposed to be in perfect harmony, upholding the same ideals, are in disagreement, parrying varying views and opinions. Unresolved conflicts have never benefitted any congregation. Therefore as a clergy or laity who is renewed in Christ, it behooves on us to earnestly strive to ensure our congregation is at peace

MEMORY VERSE

Eph. 4:2 "With all lowliness and gentleness, with long suffering, bearing with one another in love."

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Are you committed to resolving issues between clergy and laity with the utmost dispatch?.



STUDY 48

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDE OF THE
NEW MAN IN
CONFLICT SITUATION

TOPIC:

LAITY VERSUS
LAITY CONFLICTS

TEXT:

MATTHEW. 18:15-20;
5:9, 21-26;

AIM:

To x-ray the extent of conflict situations among brethren and proffer biblical measures in resolving them.

INTRODUCTION

A conflict situation between laity and laity is a situation that has the tendency of keeping the church in perpetual disharmony if not promptly resolved. The harmony of the church is so paramount to our Lord Jesus Christ that in John 17:11, 21, He earnestly prayed to the Father that the church should be one. Apostle Paul equally entreated the Corinthian brethren to be in perfect harmony.

It is the desire of God for the church to be in spiritual equilibrium in order to stand firm in the end time battle. If the body of Christ is divided, her impact in the society will be limited. We will, therefore, in this study, critically look at the things

that cause conflict among brethren and how they can be resolved.

STUDY GUIDE

1. Explain the term 'conflict situations' among laity.
2. Discuss from the scripture below the conflict that ensued among brethren in the Corinthian church and how this relates to the church today. 1Cor. 1:10-15
3. What are the dangers of conflict among brethren in the body of Christ? Matt. 5:9, 21-26, 1Cor. 6:1-10
4. As a new man what are the practical steps to be taken in resolving conflicts among brethren in the body of Christ? (Matt.18:15-20; Rom. 12:17-21; Lev. 19:18; James 1:19-20; 1Cor. 13:4-7; Eph 4:31-32 Phil. 2:4)

CONCLUSION

The church consists of individuals who see things in different perspectives; therefore it is important we note that conflict is a reality in every church, whether large or small. Hence, conflict must be resolved promptly to avoid dissension and division that can destroy the harmony in the church. God wants us as new men to go extra miles in resolving conflicts in a way that honours Christ, protects the people and manifest love within the congregation.

MEMORY VERSE

Matt. 5:9 “Blessed are the peace makers for they shall be called the sons of God.”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Sometimes, God doesn't send you into a battle to win it; He sends you to end it.



STUDY 49

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDE OF THE
NEW MAN IN
CONFLICT SITUATION

TOPIC:

ATTITUDE OF THE
NEW MAN IN CONFLICT
SITUATION: IN FAMILY
RELATIONSHIPS

TEXT:

EPH 5:15-6:9 ;
Phil. 2:4

AIM:

To survey family conflicts
and their possible solutions.

INTRODUCTION


Family is a group of people who live together and are united by ties of marriage, blood or adoption. Conflicts in family relationships is simply inevitable. A family begins when a man and a woman from different background, customs and traditions come together as husband and wife. When the knot is tied as bride and groom, you did not only join your hopes and dreams but also your hurts, fears, imperfections and emotional baggage.

These are potential tools that can stir up conflicts in the family if not confronted with the word of God. Conflicts also arise among our children

because of the differences in the individual make up. We will therefore in this study analyze biblical and practical family conflict situations and their possible solutions.

STUDY GUIDE

1. Describe conflict situations peculiar to family relationships?

- 
2. Outline the causes of the family conflicts that ensued in the family of;
 - a) Adam (Gen. 4:1-8)
 - b) Isaac (Gen.25:28, 27:1-10, 30-41)
 - c) Jacob (Gen.37:3, 5, 9-11)
 3. How should a new man respond to conflict situations in family relationship in the light of the following scriptures (Matt.5:25-26; Luke 17:3-4; Gal.6:2; James 5:16; Phil 2:3-4; Prov. 3:5)
 4. Practically analyze the biblical responsibilities of: (i) husband/father (ii) wife/mother (iii) children and (iv) servants in combating conflict situations in the family. (Eph 5:15-6:9; 1Peter 3:1-9)

CONCLUSION

Unresolved family conflicts have a dangerous implication to the church and society at large. For the church and society to be in good condition, families must be in perfect harmony. It is therefore the responsibility of every man and woman who has confessed Christ to ensure that the resolution of their family conflicts is centered on the love of Christ. Let's not allow our selfish interests to affect the oneness which God intended in families from the beginning of creation.

MEMORY VERSE

Phil 2:4 "Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."

EXAMINE YOURSELF

What has been your contribution in resolving your family conflicts?

STUDY 50

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDE OF THE
NEW MAN IN
CONFLICT SITUATION

TOPIC:

ATTITUDE OF THE
NEW MAN IN CONFLICT
SITUATION:
WORKPLACE CONFLICTS

TEXT:

HEBREWS 12:14

AIM:

o help us as believers
understand what our
attitudes should be in the
midst of conflicts that may
arise in our workplace

INTRODUCTION


Workplace conflicts, is a state of discord caused by actual or perceived opposition, of needs, values and interests between people working together. Given the multitude of personality types present in any workplace, and the range of internal and external pressures that exist, it is no surprise that conflict will certainly exist in most workplaces. However as Christians, God has planted us to shine as light. We are to strive daily for peaceable relationships with all people at all times.

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do you understand as workplace conflicts
2. Read the following scriptures and discuss how the factors listed below can trigger conflict at workplace.

Prov. 15:18, 28:2, 16:28(NIV)

i. Personality clash/clash of values

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- ii. Stress
 - iii. Heavy workloads
 - iv. Poor management
 - v. Perceived discrimination
 - vi. Bully/harassments
 - vii. Envy/jealousy/pride
3. From the following bible passages, discuss what our attitudes as believers should be during conflict time in our workplace. Eph. 4:1-3, Gen. 13:7-8, Heb. 12:14 Col 3:12-13 Rom. 12:17-21.
 4. Have you ever had any conflict in your workplace, share how the Lord enabled you to resolve it.

CONCLUSION

Working with other people is often the hardest thing that we do. It is also one task that Christians should be better suited to do well. Only one who knows Christ and has been united with him in his death, burial and resurrection can truly show Christ-like love in the face of wrongdoing and a willingness to forgive. When we yield ourselves completely to the Holy Spirit, God's Grace can help us to abound with Grace towards others.

MEMORY VERSE

Col 3: 13, "Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Are you part of the problem or the solution.

STUDY 51

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDE OF THE
NEW MAN IN
CONFLICT SITUATION

TOPIC:

ATTITUDE OF THE
NEW MAN IN
CONFLICT SITUATION:
COMMUNITY CONFLICTS

TEXT:

MATTHEW 5:24,
JAMES 4:1-10

AIM:

To help us as believers
understand what our
attitudes and responsibilities
should be in the midst of
community conflicts.

INTRODUCTION

A community is a group of people living in the same place or having particular characteristics in common. A community brings a group of people together to form a common identity. Anytime you bring people together you will have more than one interest, opinions, values and perceptions. Sometimes it is how people go about these things that generate conflicts.

Most of our communities today have become battle fields as a result of misunderstandings that began as something inconsequential but, because of certain ungodly attitudes, escalated into conflicts that have claimed many lives and properties. Greed, power tussle, land disputes, chieftaincy title, and different kinds of wickedness have aborted many of God's programme and has given the

devil a seat in many of our communities. No community will progress and maximize their full potentials when certain conflicts are not properly addressed.



STUDY GUIDE

1. What is community conflict?
2. Mention and discuss some of the major factors that are responsible for most of the community conflicts Prov. 10:12, 16:28, 28:25, 29:2, James 4:1-2
3. What should be the role of the Church/believers in the face of community conflicts Matt 5:13-15, 5:9
4. What are consequences of being indifferent as Christians during the time of conflict in communities?

CONCLUSION

We are the light and salt of the earth. We are to the world what salt and light are in everyday life. Salt seasons food, it hinders the spread of corruption, it creates thirst; it brings out flavour. So as Christians, we are called to create harmony, serve as a preservative and bring the flavour of God's presence to our communities especially in the time of conflicts.

MEMORY VERSE

Matt 5:9 Blessed are the Peacemakers for they shall be called the sons of God.

EXAMINE YOURSELF

Are you a champion of peace and harmony in your local community?



STUDY 52

THEME:

ATTITUDES AND ROLE
RELATIONSHIPS
OF THE
NEW MAN

SUB THEME:

ATTITUDE OF THE
NEW MAN IN
CONFLICT SITUATIONS

TOPIC:

CLERGY VS
CLERGY CONFLICTS

TEXT:

MARK 15:36-41


AIM: To help the clergy and laity understand what our attitude should be when there are conflicts between the clergy.

INTRODUCTION

Priesthood comes with a lot of responsibilities, obligations and expectations. Priests are chosen by God to manage on earth all his concerns and interests. The priest is a minister destined by God to be a public ambassador of the whole church, to honour Him and to obtain His graces for all the faithful. In many ways he is the focal point, people look up to him as a model of true Christianity. However, some attitudes exhibited by the priests especially in conflict situations with other clergymen sends a wrong signal to the flock and reduces the dignity and respect God has bestowed on the office.

STUDY GUIDE

1. What do you understand as clergy vs clergy conflicts?
2. Discuss how the following factors can trigger conflicts between the clergy
 - i. Lack of respect for position or age.

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- ii. Sharing of proceeds from the altar
 - iii. Feeling that one is too important because of certain spiritual gifts God has endowed him with
 - iv. Pride, arrogance, envy and gossip
 - v. Unnecessary and unhealthy competitions
 - vi. Oppression, humiliation and intimidation
 - vii. Cliques or party spirit.
3. What should be the attitude of the clergy and the members of the congregation during the period of conflicts between the clergy
 4. How best can you interpret this scriptures in the light of the topic? 2Tim 2:24, 1 Pet 4:8

CONCLUSION

The level of misunderstandings, crises and conflicts among the clergy is on the increase especially in these last days. This is one of Satan's strategies to weaken the church and the gospel and to make the church more vulnerable to his attacks. If our clergy will allow the Holy Spirit to totally influence their will, some of these unnecessary conflicts will be completely resolved.

MEMORY VERSE

2Tim 2:24A “and the servant of the lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all...”

EXAMINE YOURSELF

How do you normally respond to conflict situations between clergy?.

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