



ENFORCING **- A CHANGE -**

EMEKA ANSLEM

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Just Before You Begin...

One of the greatest revelations I've had growing up in the faith is that true change doesn't come with time; it is initiated by a desperate and definite commitment to change. In Matthew 11:12 the bible says, ***"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force"***. In other words, taking your portion in this kingdom is not in view until you begin to consciously apply specific forces.

This is so important because Satan has vowed that no believer will ever get lucky. That's right! As believers, we don't get lucky, we make things work by applying a certain force.

All through scriptures we'd find several forces that we can apply to get certain results, but in this book, I want to focus on just a few of them. Have a good read!

New Birth

If you're reading this book, then you've probably received Jesus as Lord and Saviour. However, it is possible to have received Jesus and still miss out on a very important feature that redemption provides.

There are different realms and dimensions of birth. A foetus in the womb won't see any value for its eyes, ears, nose or even legs. Though it has them, but they are of no value to it in the womb realm.

Also, as long as it's still in the womb realm, its destiny can easily be manipulated by those in the earth realm. That's why a baby in the womb would always need the protection of the mother - who is in the earth realm.

If any harm comes to the mother in the earth realm, it would have a negative impact on the fetus. If the one who is protecting you is gone, you'd either be taken for a prey or you'd also be gone in no time.

The disciples of Jesus felt protected before Jesus was captured. Their confidence and witness was up to par. But the moment Jesus was captured, they all went into hiding.

You can't blame them; that's the law of life. They feared for their life because the realm Jesus operated from was different from the realm they were operating from. And the fact that they fled made it obvious.

So the moment that baby is born into this earth realm, its ears, eyes, and every other sense organ gradually begins to function. If none of the organs are working, then that baby is as good as dead. Imagine a baby whose ability to feel, hear, see, and smell is altered, nothing good can come out of it. Though it's been born into a new realm, its full value is lurked within

its ability to use those senses. A child can still prosper if one or two organs are dysfunctional, but not when all are.

Understanding your realm of birth will unveil what is available to you. Nicodemus clearly understood this principle. The bible tells us that he was part of the Council of the Jews. Members of such councils are people who are vast in knowledge and understanding. They've traded the possibilities in their realm.

But for some inexplicable reason, he decided to approach Jesus to know which realm he was operating from. I'm guessing it's because he's been around long enough to know that people from the earth realm do not sustain the ability to operate like Jesus did. And Jesus didn't hesitate to respond in the affirmative. Let's read how the Bible puts it:

John 3:

3. Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

The word "see" that was used in that scripture connotes using your senses to access or experience available possibilities. This is more like saying, "except a child be born into the earth realm, it cannot see its inheritances".

So just as child birth activates our physical senses, new birth also activates our spiritual receptacles. These spiritual receptacles are God's strategy to help us command enviable results on the earth. It was these senses that made Jesus operate in dimensions that wasn't available on the earth realm.

Any sinner that hears this would desire to be born again. This is why demonic forces manipulate destinies on the earth realm easily. If everybody on the earth realm activates a spiritual sense, tragedies would be abated on the earth realm.

Before I talk about the second force you can apply to enforce a change, let's deal with these

spiritual receptacles. Or simple put, spiritual sense organs.

The first one we'd be looking at is:

1. The knowing of revelation

John 13:1-3 says, "Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end. And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him; Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God".

Notice the words, "Jesus knew" and "Jesus knowing". The question is, how did He know those spiritual matters even in human flesh? The answer is obvious; this spiritual sense was activated.

Seventy percent of God's dealing with man comes from this sense. Many times, the

difference between life and death, chaos and peace, is knowing. Imagine what would have happened to those five thousand people if Jesus didn't know what to do.

His disciples were clearly deficient in this area, that's why they had a challenge in making plausible suggestions. But the bible tells us that Jesus knew what He would do. Hallelujah! Wouldn't you like to know what to do at all times?

What I'm sharing with you was a desire that Moses had for the people of Israel. He desired that God would replicate the spirit in him on the children of Israel. The reason is obviously because he wanted them to be able to access spiritual things.

When Jesus gave His disciples power to thread upon serpents, they did wonders that even the devil was subject to his name. But power without the activation of their spiritual senses still sent them into hiding.

This is the advantage believers have over evil doers. Their gods are non-living; they don't speak nor show things. But our God is a living God, He can show things. I once returned from a trip where I literally saw gross darkness covering people. Evil was written on the walls and even on people. There were things I wanted to do that this sense refrained me from doing. I saw a guy that was constantly inserting a blue pen into his teeth. I thought he was trying to remove something from his teeth, only to discover that he had been conditioned to live like that. This is a guy whose destiny was to become a great singer.

Moses' prayer only answered when Jesus died, ascended, and gave us a possibility of rebirth by the Spirit. The moment you're born again, your spiritual senses are activated - just as your ears and eyes start functioning once you're born here.

Paul said "I know whom I have believed". This is the knowing that activates faith in your heart. Oftentimes you can't tell how you know what

you know, but you know that you know what you know.

Do you know how long you should work under someone else's employment? Do you know when you should start your own business? Some of you desire to leave the country, but do you know if you should travel?

Believers should not live by trials and errors; we should do things because we know they would work. This is how we'd create a difference between a believer and an unbeliever.

The second spiritual sense is:

2. Sight of affection

John 5:20 says, ***"For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel"***. In other words, if you truly want to do greater works this year, then this spiritual sense must be activated in your life.

This spiritual sense isn't activated because we're "most righteous", but because He loves us. Your first qualification to walking in this dimension is God's love towards you. Isn't that amazing?

I've heard people say things like "I don't know what God is doing", well, with this spiritual sense, you can see. Jesus didn't give up on the cross because He could see the joy that was set before Him. The reason why many people easily give up on a cause is because they can't see what's ahead. If you can see, you will tarry.

If you can see, you will pray. If you can see, you will fast. If you can see, you will obey God. If you can see, you will have faith. Psalm 119:18 says, "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law". It's amazing how you only begin to experience the wonders in God's word when you can see.

A lady once testified of how her life had been in shambles. She had been following our Bible

reading plan but she never understood anything she read. Her mindset was just to read to "fulfill all righteousness". But according to her, one morning, when her challenges had reached her neck, she asked God to open her eyes to understand the things she read. And for the first time, she literally saw picture slides and videos playing through the pages of scriptures.

The amazing part was that those scriptures were speaking directly to her, not Abraham, not Isaac, not Jacob. Many of you have read about Apostle Paul all your life, if only you knew that embedded within those books are direct words to you. But you can't access those words until you can see.

God is always willing to show us things, and that's because He wouldn't want us to be confused at any point. But the challenge is, many believers will not call upon God except they have a challenge. Mysteriously, this seeing sense can only be activated through a consistent prayer life. If you only pray to God

when there's a challenge, you may never access this sense.

Jeremiah 33:3 says, ***"Call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will show you great and mighty things that you know not"***. Did you see that, the idea was to pray to receive an answer, but in the process, God shows you things that you neither knew nor prayed about. Isn't that amazing? In Acts 10:9-13, Peter went up to pray, but it resulted in God showing him things.

If you understand this, you'd be praying every day. This is why the Bible says, "pray without ceasing". Why would I want to cease praying if I understand this mystery?

Alright, the third spiritual sense is:

3. The hearing of faith

Acts 10:

13. And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.

14. But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean.

15. And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.

Sometimes seeing and knowing alone won't give you the conviction you need, you need to hear. One of the things that the voice of God does it to activate everything needed to fulfil what was said.

While Peter was contesting what God had said to him, he heard a knock on the door that fulfilled what he heard.

It's called the hearing of faith because you'd know it's God who spoke to you. It will be so loud that you'd think everybody around you heard it. They won't hear because the physical ears aren't wired to hear from that dimension, only the spiritual ear can.

The first book I physically published was published in 2017. This was after I had written

27 e-books. All the while I desired to publish my books, but I just didn't get the leading from God. To my amazement, I heard a voice in the midst of a heated Sunday service, "it's time to publish one of your books".

If I depended on my physical ears to hear from God, there was no way I would have heard that instruction. No environmental noise should be too loud to distract you from hearing what God is saying.

The bible makes reference to both the spiritual and physical ear. Rev 2:29 says, ***"he that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the church"***. Matt 11:15 says, ***"he that hath ears, let him hear"***. Notice that the spiritual ear is in a singular form while the physical ear is plural. If you want to hear what the Spirit of God is saying to you, then your spiritual ear must be opened.

PRAY IN ONE MINUTE...

Lord, open my spiritual eye and ear to see what you're showing and hear what you're saying.

NOW LET ME SHOW YOU HOW THESE SPIRITUAL SENSES ARE ACTIVATED....

It's simple... Through an effective prayer life...

Even after we were born, we didn't see immediately, we still needed to fraternize with human beings in this earth realm for some days before our eyes could finally see clearly.

As we grew older - acquainting ourselves with the forces of this realm, our possibilities increased. In the womb, we couldn't go to school and become experts, but in this earth realm we can even become professors. In the womb, our lives could be easily manipulated, but on this earth, we can defend ourselves.

It's the same with activating spiritual senses. Don't expect your spiritual eye and ear to be activated without fraternizing with the Spirit of God. And this can be done mostly through prayers. The more time you spend in prayers, the more spiritually sensitive you'd become.

This is why I get perturbed when I meet believers who can't pray for at least one hour daily. In Matt 26:40, Jesus was worried that His disciples couldn't wait on Him for one hour. If they had waited for one hour, they would have seen all the events that took place while Jesus went up to pray. Apostle Arome Osayi spoke from a standpoint of experience when he said your spiritual senses would be active for the day after you've prayed for a minimum of one hour.

People have asked how they could improve their prayer life. Prayer is not easy, it's a sacrifice. Just as many people find it difficult to give out their possessions, many people also find it difficult to maintain a stable prayer life. Making sacrifices has to come from a willing heart; and a willing heart can only be gotten by understanding.

There's something you can understand about prayer that will keep you on your feet every

night. Even when you're tired, you'd still be willing to pray.

The prayer altar is a medium through which God relates with man. God is free to do just anything through the altar of prayer. I don't mean physical altars, but the art of praying itself. Any place or even anyone can be an altar for God to manifest himself in this world.

Your prayer life can commit God to reaching your family and everything that concerns you. I remember a lady who had issues retaining the things she reads or learn. But the day she wore my slippers, she felt a sharp shift inside her head, and suddenly, she started remembering things. She only shared the experience of the brain problem after she had the testimony. She received that encounter from God because, over time, my life had become an altar through which God manifests Himself.

I didn't need to know about it or even pray for her, her encounter with an altar where God passes through to manifest Himself did the

miracle. That's what you benefit by maintaining a stable prayer life.

Possibilities increase each time your prayer life increases. A stable prayer life extends God's hand towards everything that is connected to you.

Isaac was blessed, but he couldn't differentiate Jacob from Esau because he was also blind. So even though he was blessed, his blindness made him misappropriate the blessing.

Clearly, this is the state of many believers. Ephesians 1:3 confirms that we are blessed people, yet many believers live in depravity, only because they are blind. According to 2 Cor 4:4, this blindness is self-inflicted. It's an affliction that comes upon us as a proof of unbelief.

That scripture says, ***"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine***

unto them". So it may seem as if the devil caused it, but we initiated it through unbelief.

Satan can be afraid, but for only one thing; he doesn't want you to gain ascendance in your spiritual understanding. So he takes advantage of your unbelief. Unbelief doesn't necessary mean being in doubt, it also means being ignorant of the truth. A person is said to be spiritually blind not just because he doubts the word, but because he's completely ignorant of the truth of God's word.

Read the Bible all you want, but without revelational understanding, you're still blind. If you don't feel blessed in certain areas around your life, it's an indication that a veil is covering your eyes. And most times, the only thing that can remove such a veil is prayer.

A lady sent in her testimony on how she didn't understand the Bible every time she read it. She only read it because I instructed the group to read it daily. All those times, her life was in a mess. She finally decided to take off the veil,

and prayed that the Holy Spirit should open her eyes as she read. To her amazement, she could literally see pictures from every scripture she read. According to her testimony, it was like God personalized the scriptures for her sake.

Now that's what the devil is scared of. You may buy a car or even a property, but if the veil is still in your eyes, he can take it from you. You may connect with your soul mate and even get married, but if the veil is still there, then he can take your marriage from you.

Don't wait till the devil completely sabotages your destiny, arise and prayerfully seek light from the scripture. When you notice a slight anomaly in your life, it's an indication that a veil is covering something. Don't watch it, hunt it till you destroy it.

Faith

On four different occasions in the Bible, we are told that the just shall live by faith. It was said in Habakkuk 2:4, Romans 1:17, Hebrews 10:38, Galatians 3:11

Unfortunately, many believers are living by mercy, not by faith. Someone once complained that he has been praying to God for mercy to advance his life, my response was that **MERCY IS NOT FOR ADVANCEMENT, IT'S FOR COMPASSION.**

Read your Bible, you'd realize that mercy is often used whenever issues like weakness, forgiveness and destruction are discussed. But when it comes to faith, the discussions or records are always progressive in nature.

Don't get me wrong, mercy is powerful, but it has its own assignment. It's God's fail-safe

system for a believer's faith. The moment our faith fails, God's mercy sustains us so that we don't get consumed. Now you'd understand Lamentations 3:22, it says ***"it is of the Lord's mercy that we are not consumed"***.

I strongly believe that one of the reasons why God renews His mercy over us daily is because He doesn't trust our faith enough to sustain us all through the day. However, depending on mercy alone may preserve you, but it won't advance you. It takes faith to journey with God. Without faith, it is impossible to please or work with God.

Think about it, when the children of Isreal left Egypt, the journey to Canaan was supposed to be forty days, but when God saw that they didn't have faith for the journey, He showed them mercy by taking them through a longer route so that they could develop their faith for the actual journey. That show of mercy took 40 years before they could finally have faith. Could it be that the delay in your life is because of a lack of faith?

Mercy will really keep you from being consumed, that's why Jesus helped Peter when his faith failed as he walked on water.

Let me show you some scriptures;

Romans 11:

29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

30 For as ye in times past have not believed God, yet have now obtained mercy through their unbelief:

31 Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy.

32 For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all.

So you see that mercy is released the moment faith fails.

Matthew 9:

27 And when Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed him, crying, and saying, Thou Son of David, have mercy on us.

28 And when he was come into the house, the blind men came to him: and Jesus saith unto

them, Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto him, Yea, Lord.

29 Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your faith be it unto you.

30 And their eyes were opened; and Jesus straitly charged them, saying, See that no man know it.

My emphasis is from verse 29, of course that's after Jesus had asked them if they believed he could heal them. The moment they responded in the affirmative, Jesus touched their eyes and said, **"According to your faith be it unto you"**. The very next thing we heard was that their eyes were opened.

Jesus didn't say "be healed" after he touched their eyes, he said "be it unto you according to your faith".

Read your Bible, I'm not sure you'd find any record of people who rose to greatness by mercy alone, yet, you'd find records of heroes of faith.

WHAT IS FAITH?

One of the greatest secrets you'd learn about faith is revealed in Hebrews chapter 11:1. It says, **"... faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen"**. In other words, faith is the assurance of your hopes.

While hope is the expectation or desires of man, faith is the conviction birthed from God's word concerning man's desire. So if I hope to get a car someday, that's just hope and there's no life in it. But if I receive a word from God or find a scripture in the bible concerning owning a car, and I choose to believe that word, then my hope is no longer lifeless, it has been enlivened. Faith enlivens the hope of man.

Now you'd understand why the bible would often encourage you to believe each time the words "desire" or "hope" is mentioned. It's because God knows that if you live by your hopes alone, then you may wait for ever, but when our hopes are mixed with faith, then we'd

have what the bible calls "lively hope", hope that is alive.

Mark 11:24 says, **"... What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them"**. Did you notice the words, "Desire" and "Believe"? Many people pray about their desires, which is okay, but the challenge is that if you pray about your desire without believing a word that enlivens your desires, you're very unlikely to receive it. Just because it's a desire in your heart doesn't mean it has a voice in the realm of the Spirit. It is faith that gives your desire a voice. So it tells you to believe when you pray. It's okay to have hopes, but even in your hope, believe.

We were told that Abraham was against hope, yet he believed in hope. Which means there are times when even your hopes may seem like a hopeless situation, but your faith in the word for that hope can give you your desires, just like it did for Abraham. The situation was hopeless, but because God's word spoke about it, he kept his hope alive. It's okay to give up your hopes

and your dreams as long as God hasn't spoken a word about it, but if God has spoken, then believe in hope. Blessed is anyone that believes, because there'd always be a performance of those things which were spoken by the Lord.

The children of Isreal hoped to be free from Egypt some day, but they didn't believe God's word concerning their freedom. They murmured and provoked God, even ten times. Let's read from scriptures:

Numbers 14:

21 But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.

22 Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice;

23 Surely they shall not see the land which I swear unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:

24 But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will

I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it.

33 And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcases be wasted in the wilderness.

34 After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise.

35 I the LORD have said, I will surely do it unto all this evil congregation, that are gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.

Just look at that, they distrusted God ten times. And for that reason, a journey which should have taken 40 days took them 40 years. Asides that, all those who didn't trust God's word were not privileged to see the promised land.

So now you see why it takes long for some believers to see the manifestation of God's promises. That occasional complain and distrust we display; it goes into record in heaven. And so a breakthrough that should take one day now takes one year. If you want

to deal with God, then you have to trust Him absolutely. Every display of distrust amounts to something before Him.

I understand that some people find it difficult to trust God, probably because they've had many failed promises from men and the systems of this world. But don't worry, let me show you a system I've lived with that gives me assurance of success every day.

2 Peter 1:

19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

Did you notice the words "More sure word", "of Prophecy", "You do well", "A light that shines in a dark place?"

So we have a MORE SURE WORD. This should get you excited already. Just when your government is messing up and unfulfilling in their words, you have a more sure word. They

might be trimming employees in the company where you work and your colleagues seem to be so sure that you'd also be issued a letter of dismissal, tell them you have a more sure word, that "a thousand shall fall by your side and ten thousand by your right side, but none shall come near you".

Perhaps they've told you that marriageable men are scarce and that you should do anything your fiancé wants to preserve him, tell them you have a more sure word, the bible says "... None shall lack her mate...". And if they tell you not to implement that business idea because the economy is bad, tell them that whatsoever you do shall prosper. You have a more sure word. Hallelujah!

Don't let their negative words register in your heart; rather, let God's word be the final say over matters that concern your heart.

That scripture also says that God's word is prophetic. Just because you don't look like what it says now doesn't mean it won't happen.

Just believe it and act accordingly. Luke 1:45 made this clear when it said, "***And blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord***". This means that as long as you believe it, God will perform it. This also means that if God does not perform it, it means you didn't believe it.

God is not your president that He would lie or disappoint. If He has said it, then be rest assured that He'd do it. Just believe!

The next part says you'd do well if you take heed to God's word. Isn't that beautiful? So if you want to do well, just take heed to God's word.

Finally, you'd emerge as a light that shines in a dark place. You'd shine among your peers, among your colleagues, within your family, within your community, and ultimately within your country. Wouldn't you like that?

FAITH WORKS... WHEN APPLIED

Someone once told me that despite all his faith in God, nothing was working in his life.

You may not like the sound of this, but the degree to which your faith is working can only be measured by the results we see in, through and around your life. If you claim to have faith in God, there should be something your faith has done in, through or around your life.

What I mean is, if your faith hasn't changed your mindset or given you peace within, then it should have worked certain miracles or possibilities through you. If those two are not the case for you, then there should be something around your life that is a result of your faith in God. If one or all these three are not available in your life, then you never really had faith.

Abraham was against hope, yet the bible says he was fully persuaded. As far having a child

through Sarah was concerned, the situation appeared hopeless, but Faith was working within Abraham. And it was only a matter of time before the result manifested for all to see.

Peter didn't have money to give to the beggar at the gate called Beautiful, but he gave him what he had from within. Let's see how scriptures put it;

Acts 3:

1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.

2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.

4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.

5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God:

Did you notice verse 6? Peter acknowledged that he didn't have money, but he had something within that he could give. What he had within may not have been visible for all to see, but just because it wasn't visible doesn't mean it was not working. Just because nobody is seeing your faith within doesn't mean it is not working. Just because you don't have money doesn't mean you should starve for food. Peter couldn't give the beggar money, but he gave him what money could not buy. Just as money can buy food, faith can also buy food.

Timely Positioning and Opportunities

I love this third force; the force of timely positioning and the ability to maximize opportunities.

Ecclesiastes 9:

11 I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.

That was king Solomon giving a summarized remark about life, a king who has remained one of the wisest Kings that ever lived. Let's analyze his remark;

- ***The race is not to the swift;*** which means the fastest or the one with great speed does not always win the race. We've watched racing competitions where we expected that the fastest would win the race, only to experience an unfortunate outcome. So if your desire is to win a race, speed shouldn't be the only determining factor.

- ***Nor the battle to the strong;*** which means the strongest does not always win the battle. We've watched heavy weight boxing matches where we honestly believed that strongest would win, only to be dazed by the outcome. The strength of the opposition was in no match for our principal, yet he won the fight. If winning the battle is your desire, then strength shouldn't be the only determining factor.

- ***Neither yet bread to the wise;*** which means not all wise men make enough money to eat a comfortable three-square meal. We're even told from scriptures that the wisdom of the poor man is despised. Just because you are wise doesn't guarantee that hunger will be alleviated

from your life. Besides the wisdom that God gave Solomon, He also gave him riches, honour, power and everything he didn't ask for. So if you want to deal with poverty, wisdom is not the only thing you need.

- ***Nor yet riches to men of understanding*** - this isn't so different from the previous one. Just because you have good understanding doesn't mean you'd be rich. There are certain things that cannot be understood, yet they are responsible for bringing you great wealth. If you try to understand everything God commands you to do, you may keep experiencing delays in life.

- ***Nor yet favour to men of skill***; which means just because you have great gifts and skill does not guarantee that you'd be favoured. Think of the many talented young people in your neighbourhood, how many of them have received favour? If you want favour, skill is not the only thing you need.

- ***But time and chance happens to them all;*** which means every one of those scenarios listed above are subject to timely positioning and opportunities. That's right! Timely positioning and the ability to maximize opportunities.

I remember a tragic event that happened to me when I was still running my cooking business; I received a referral to cook two Nigerian soups for the Managing Director of a blue-chip company. Although my soup was good, but my packaging and personal presentation was terrible. I wore a slippers and packaged the soups in a black polythene bag on the delivery day. It was when I got to the street where the company was located that I realized my mistake. I had not delivered it yet, but I knew deep down that the man may never call me again.

I honestly hoped that the security man would take the bag from me and deliver the soup on my behalf. Unfortunately, I was led right into the man's office. You needed to see how I walked

through the staff quarters with my slippers, wet cloths - which was an effect from the rain that day, and then the black polythene bag on my hand. The staffs were well dressed, suited with nice shoes. On getting to the MD's office, he was having a board meeting, so the entire board members saw I supplied an order to their MD. It was a complete mess. Of course, he didn't call me to complain, he called the person that made the referral. It's been many years now, and I haven't heard from both the man and the person that made the referral.

I had a great cooking skill, but I lacked the intelligence to maximize opportunities. Besides that I lost that client, I also stopped taking orders from new clients. That business died a natural death. Indeed, timely positioning and the ability to maximize opportunities happens to everybody.

After Solomon was anointed king, we were told that he went to the altar to sacrifice a thousand burnt offering, which amounts to about a hundred thousand dollars in today's value.

That's timely positioning. Perhaps he learnt the power of gratitude from his father and knew how it could yield increase. That same night, God appeared to him and asked him what he wanted.

Where did you go to the day you first got a job? Where did you go to the day your wife gave birth? Some people go to a beer parlour to celebrate when they should have gone to church to give God glory. Timely positioning is powerful! God gave Solomon the kingdom, but He still had to give him wisdom to lead. God may have given you a job or a child, but He still needs to give you wisdom and wealth to manage them. But like Solomon, you ought to have gone to the church to worship the Lord for what He has done. Going to a joint instead of a church is wrong positioning, you'd miss opportunities that way. That's probably why it's been difficult to keep the things that God gives to you.

Facing Goliath was an opportunity for David to showcase his potentials, and he took it.

Imagine that David never volunteered to face Goliath? Somebody else would have made excuses that Goliath was too big, but not David, he took advantage of that opportunity.

If you know how to make shoes or cloths, make some and distribute them for free to dignitaries. How would you know you're doing a good job if dignitaries don't wear what you make? Volunteer to do free service for those who are giants in the society. Once they begin to wear what you produce, every other person will patronize you. Don't always consider money first, master the value you give first. And there's no better way to master the value you give than to service giants through volunteering.

Keep telling people what you can do even if it means doing it for free. Trade your gift for free until it begins to attract a fee. Believe me, you can't do it free for ever. A time will come when the demand on you will be too much that only those who are willing to pay can be serviced. This is my testimony! My books have been free since 2017, yet people read my books and still

choose to pay for them in form of sowing seeds.

Daniel alongside his mates were about to be slaughtered because a group of soothsayers and magicians couldn't interpret the king's dream. Imagine that Daniel didn't take advantage of that opportunity. Daniel was the wisest, yet he would have died if he didn't maximize that opportunity.

Joseph maximized every single opportunity he had, right from Potiphar's house, to the prison, and then to Pharaoh. Imagine that he did not volunteer to interpret the dreams of those palace servants? He would have missed the opportunity to be called to the palace two years later. Somebody else would have complained because he was wrongfully sentenced, but not Joseph. He understood this force, the force of timely positioning and opportunities.

Many women would have been married today except that they missed an opportunity. They considered the man's Bank account when they

should have just been comfortable with his love. Many job seekers would have been employed today except that they may have missed an opportunity. They turned down a job because the pay was too small, not knowing that the job was God's plan to elevate them. When I was looking for a job in 2017, the offer I got was far below my qualification. They offered forty-five thousand Naira. Thank God I prayed about it, because God told me that it was the place he wanted me to work. It was from that place that my fame went abroad, not necessarily because of the company, but because of what God wanted me to do from there.

Talk about timely positioning, many young ladies went to night clubs the day their husband to be came to church. David encountered Bathsheba because he was wrongly positioned. Many people have lost out on great moves because they were both wrongly positioned and didn't maximize opportunity.

NOW DOES THIS MEAN THAT YOU CAN NO LONGER SUCCEED IF YOU'VE LOST AN OPPORTUNITY?

No! The good thing about being a believer in Christ is that God's word can both reposition you and give you opportunity. Let me show you a few scriptural examples:

SCRIPTURE 1:

Proverbs 28:

27 He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.

This scripture reveals an opportunity to deal with lack. While some people get burdened when they read the part where giving was mentioned, they miss out on the opportunity that it presents. Every instruction of scriptures carries opportunities, and the earlier you begin to read them as an opportunity, the better for you.

Giving to the poor is clearly an opportunity to deal with or eradicate lack in my life. If this is the case, then I won't hesitate to take advantage of every opportunity I have to give to the poor. The more I give to the poor, the farther lack goes from me. If you still experience lack, then blame it on your commitment to the poor.

So, if you're tired of lack and want in your life, you have an opportunity to come out of it, and that's giving to the poor.

SCRIPTURE 2:

Ephesians 6:

2 Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)

3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

This is an opportunity to live long on the earth, and yet live well. If that sounds like something you want, then the requirement is to give to your parents.

SCRIPTURE 3:

Matthew 6:

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

A Christian should not struggle to get things; he should enjoy addition of things. A career should be added to you, marriage should be added to you, a house and a car should be added to you, a job and business should be added to you, everything that the world struggles to get should be added to you without you needing to struggle to get them. That's the prophetic destiny of every believer.

Yet, not many Christians take advantage of this opportunity. We see believers struggle to meet needs on a daily basis, only because they do not understand this principle. If you want to enjoy addition of all things, the requirement is to seek God and His kingdom.

SCRIPTURE 4:

Malachi 3:

10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Do you want the heavens over you to be opened? Would you like to enjoy overflowing blessings? If yes, then the requirement is to give your tithe.

The only way to maximize these opportunities is to do the requirements.

SCRIPTURE 5:

Galatians 6:

7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

I don't expect bad things to happen to me, and that's because I don't sow bad things. If that

sounds like something you want, then sow what you'd like to harvest.

You can't sow evil and expect good. God cannot be mocked, whatever you sow is what you'd reap.

I'm really glad that you read this book. As your testimonies begin to arrive, please do not hesitate to share your testimonies with me.

Remain ever blessed!



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Emeka Anslem is a critically acclaimed inspirational writer, Founder of In-spirited Writers Training School, and President of The Solutionists. His strong social media presence has served as a medium that satisfies the spiritual hunger of many Christians and brought even many more to Christ. He received a divine call to be a teacher in April 2013, with an assignment to "Add value to lives by bringing knowledge to the people". By God's grace, he has committed his life to that assignment, and he's always willing to add value to lives.

Through his passion for his assignment, he's been privileged to author over 50 e-books which are mostly downloadable for free at the E-BOOKS section of his website (www.emekaanslem.com.ng). His rare teaching gift has attracted several public speaking engagements in seminars, conferences and the likes. Considering his track record in writing, God inspired him to convene a yearly writers conference, which has been a medium of transformation for many writers.

He also runs a business where he operates as a content developer. He has written for great men within and outside his country of residence, and the testimonies have been phenomenal.

Emeka Anslem is accessible. So do not hesitate to contact him through any of his social media platforms.

