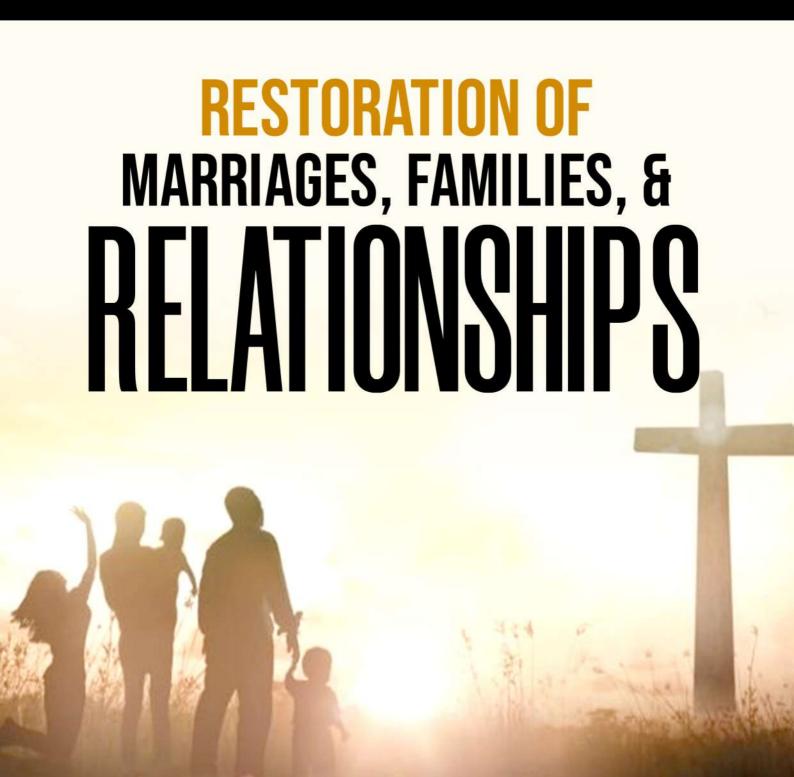


## NEWSLETTER

MAY 2024 EDITION





#### **EXCERPT OF THE TEACHING ON**

### RESTORATION OF MARRIAGES, FAMILIES, & RELATIONSHIPS

Happy New Month, dear Kingdom Professionals. Despite the various storms that rage in our lives and various nations, we remain grateful to God for his mercies and preservation.

I'd like to warmly welcome all those who newly joined The Tribe of MarketPlace Ministers within the last two (2) months.

This month of May, our theme is 'Restoration of Marriages, Families and Relationships'. Let us now begin to look at this subject closely.

In today's world, due to globalisation and the erosion of godly values, the institution of marriage has continued to receive heavy attacks from the forces of evil, resulting to a deliberate misunderstanding of marriage, and other negative results like broken homes, divorce rates, late marriages, and many other non biblical marriage agendas and positions to mention but a few.

However, as believers, God's word remains our standard and compass. This is why Colossians 1:16 unmistakably confirms that 'all things', marriage inclusive was ordained by God Himself for His purposes. Thus, marriage is NOT just a social construct, as some people insist. Also, in Genesis 2:15-18, we see that it was God who saw the need to give man a help mate. Man didn't even desire marriage or companionship, but the all-knowing God understood that man needed a support system to help him fulfil God's purpose for creating man, as seen in verse 18 of Genesis chapter 2.

After the work of creation was over, God assigned man some work to do, and to help him do the work, God gave man a help mate. Thus, God's original plan for marriage was to give him a helper to accomplish the purpose on His heart, not a "bestfriend". While friendship and companionship are essential in a marriage, we must not lose sight of the intent on the heart of The One who created it. It is instructive at this point to mention that a marriage between a man and a woman MUST be one that fulfils God's purpose. Now, a marriage may have existed for many years without any strife or rancor but if such a marriage has not identified God's purpose for its existence, then such a marriage, in God's view, is still missing an important piece which is fulfilling God's unique plan for it.



What is God's purpose for marriage, and how can one know if their marriage is meeting God's plan?

The answer to the above question is hinged on the compatibility of two people on a destiny level. We are not just talking about compatibility in appearance, taste, and other primordial considerations. Rather, we are talking about how the two people complement each other based on their destinies and the original purpose why God created two of them. For context, if a woman is called into ministry, for example, and her husband is against it, such a marriage, no matter how sweet it is, can not be fulfiling God's purpose. This is because God created the woman to serve Him in ministry, but her marriage is not allowing her to do so. Therefore, when you are considering the choice of a spouse, look out for one that complements your destiny. The lack of compatibility in this area is, perhaps, the biggest reason many marriages lack substance today. Beyond the planned flamboyant romantic date nights and all of that, prioritising compatibility in destiny is crucial in marriage.

In choosing a spouse, while you may not see a "vision" or a dream of who your spouse is, the Holy Spirit can help you vet and choose wisely among the many people coming around you. Please bear in mind that the depth of your decision on choosing a life partner is a function of the level of your relationship with God. It is very important that you develop an intimate relationship with God first. You don't want to wait for the time when you need to hear from God about "the one" to just begin to start learning His voice.

Beloved, marriage has a clearly defined order: love of wife by the husband, and submission of the wife to the husband. If you respect God in your marriage, He will steer the ship of your marriage and bless your home. For example, there is an order of leadership in a Christian home and so while my husband will seek my input on matters because he values it, I know that if there appears to be a stalemate in topics being discussed, the God appointed head of the home holds the power to "break the tie" and make the final decision. This remains true even when I think my opinion is right; I do not sidestep him and take his role. This may be a difficult reality to accept by many women, but this is one secret that will help you both grow and save your marriage. The reason is that you both are learning your roles. You are learning to submit and he is learning how to utilize a helper maximally. The danger with feeling the need to take over and insist on things going your way by nagging, manipulating, berating or harassing your husband is that you fail to learn what it truly means to submit and in turn you journey through life with an underdeveloped head of your home. Because part of his journey of leadership means learning to receive the help of his wife as he does his role as the head. So when you get into these situations, rather than bulldoze your way through, take it up with God and let Him choose to either speak to the man or use that situation as a learning experience for him.

#### Killers of Marriage

Some of the reasons marriages are dying are:

1. Ignorance: By this, I mean ignorance of God's intention for marriage. As a man, do you have any idea where you are taking the family to? Do you know the woman enough? What has God put in her life to help you both achieve God's purpose for your family? Similar questions apply to the woman as well. If you miss this important piece, you both will be as useful to each other as a carpenter's assistant in a mechanic's shop

- 2. The refusal to leave and cleave: Whether you are a man or a woman, you must try not to expect your spouse or your new home to be that of your parents. Leaving does not just mean leaving their house. It means leaving their system as well. When God gives you a new home, you are tasked with developing a new biblical based system for it to run by. You may be destroying your marriage if you ignore this. So when you find yourself insisting on things being done a certain way or other areas of conflict, pause and ask yourself why you are holding the position that you are. Is this from you or is this something imported from your parents' home? Learn, unlearn, and relearn.
- 3. Comparison: You can never enjoy your marriage when you compare it with others. Be contented and focused on your marriage and home. Some people's comparison is not with other marriages around them, it is with the marriage they believe they missed. This is common with people who believe they "missed God" on the choice of a spouse and so they are now in what they believe to be the wrong marriage. Never forget this: the marriage you have is the one that God is working on. Not the one you think you should have had. Accept that this is your home and that God's plan of redemption still covers it and allow Him build something beautiful out of you both
- 4. Spiritual deadness and immaturity: A lot of conflict and problems in marriage are simply there because the devil is still in the business of attacking and destroying the institution of marriage. If you know this, then when issues arise in your marriage, you know to confront the root of the issue, not the person in front of you.
- 5. Laziness and slothfulness in marriage: a new marriage is like a new and an empty house. It takes both spouses to put in the work to fill it up. It is what the house is filled with that the inhabitants can then draw from and enjoy. You must be willing to be put in the work even when it means being uncomfortable temporarily in marriage in order to set things right and create a space for both parties to feel safe, loved and valued

Proverbs 24:30-34 highlights the resultant effect of slothfulness, being poverty. The same applies even in marriage. Both partners must invest in and tend to the garden of their marriage. As the saying goes, the grass is greener where it is being watered

In conclusion, God is invested in the success of your marriage because His purpose for marriage kingdom impact. The devil knows this, and He constantly uses deceitful means to attack and destroy marriages. Stay on guard and keep him out

I recall that last year, I had made plans with my husband to have a lavish and memorable tenth (10th) wedding anniversary. However, we ended up investing the budgeted money into the work of the ministry God committed to us. It seemed like we had missed out on an opportunity to "renew our vows". However, within a few months, it became clear to us that God actually gave us a new marriage! It made me realize the vow renewal celebration is nothing but a big party, not that there is anything wrong with that. But God is the one that actually renews marriages!

In closing: God Himself instituted marriage and so He is invested in seeing your marriage prosper. It doesn't matter if you are in what you believe to be the wrong marriage or if your marriage is going through tough times. If God could renew my marriage that I already thought was good, how much more marriages that need His intervention? Give him a chance today and let Him turn that home around!

God bless you.



# STEWARDSHIP OF OUR VESSEL

(EARTHLY BODIES)

When we see the word stewardship, we often think of terms like financial stewardship or stewardship of a position bestowed on us. We also need to understand that we are also stewards of this earthly vessel given to us by God, our father.

This vessel is like a vehicle to further drive the call, alloted to us as we journey on this earth, and it requires attention and intentionality to steward it.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NKJV) says: Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

This scripture talks about the body housing the Holy Spirit, and this temple being bought at a price, which is a further seal of confirmation of the ingenuity of this body we carry.

So we need to tend to it; spiritually and then physically, in a constantly healthy state to function optimally for the kingdom, and also understand that God will hold us accountable for what he gives us.

The needs and cares of this world force us to consider our ministry, careers and businesses at the expense of our health, what we need to know is that a healthy vessel will take you farther on this journey.

When God created man, he put in place systems that will sustain that breath in us, so we have the respiratory systems, the digestive system, endocrine system, etc.

These systems keep functioning on their own, and even some switch on, with times and seasons (reproductive system) as long as the breath of life is still in us.

Being good stewards of our earthly vessels means that we aid these systems in function without any impediment.

I will just speak briefly on some systems from a biblical standpoint.

Genesis 1:29 says: And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food.

1st Corinthians 10:31 says that whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

God has given food for the body, but consumption is to be done to the glory of God and not to harm the digestive system.



The digestive system, as we all know, breaks down the food we eat and provides energy for our daily activities. Obstruction in this system can be by bad dieting practices such as high sugar diets, over eating, weight loss pills or teas, late night eating, etc.

The system will function optimally when you have a good diet and good eating habits. It's already created to function on its own. So, what you include or don't include will either aid or obstruct it, respectively.

We are encouraged to even fast, which helps as a spiritual detox and a physical detox to our bodies.

The respiratory system ensures we have oxygen (O²) through the air we breathe, circulate throughout the body, and let out carbondioxide (CO²). We regulate this by ensuring we are not exposed to toxic environments or that we abuse drugs by inhalation, which may alter other systems, and leave us in a state of euphoria or pseudopeace. The effect of this leaves us in a state where we are controlled by the toxic substances inhaled, leaving us exposed and unguarded.

The endocrine system is one not usually mentioned and commonly known but is very much as important as every other system, as it consists of chemical mediators known as hormones. Hormones are chemical messengers that travel through the bloodstream to organs and tissues, where they control how cells and organs function. Hormones affect many processes, including: growth and development, metabolism, sexual function, reproduction, mood, stress, and inflammation.

The negative effect of altering hormones will be largely seen in various organs as well as growth and development and this can occur by exposing our bodies to consistent and high levels of stress and stressor, medications (contraceptives), diets such as those that contain phytoeostrogens which mimic the oestrogen produced naturally in women, thereby causing an increase in these hormones and an imbalance when some meals (e.g soy milk) are over consumed over a long period of time.

It's our responsibility to ensure that what we consume and our lifestyle choices do not alter this system as it would be detrimental to our health.

These are just a few of the systems that God put in place to sustain our earthly vessels, and we are to use the knowledge we have or can access to aid this system in obtaining their maximal output.

I hope that we will get an opportunity to discuss this extensively, but until then, please remember that you are as responsible for your physical health as you are your spiritual health!



## OUTREACH REPORT FOR APRIL 2024: ABUJA, NIGERIA AND GHANA

Last month, our super outreach teams in Abuja, Nigeria, and Ghana carried out two humanitarian projects. To GOD be ALL the glory!



#### **UPCOMING OUTREACH PROJECT FOR MAY 2024**



MEDICAL OUTREACH





To Donate/Enquiries, Contact:

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The Tribe's Admin: Victoria Kagbure: Phone No.: +234 802 681 7693





#### **PARTNER WITH US!**

Have you been blessed by what we do? We have a passion to ignite and sustain the flames of marketplace ministry in Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, United States, Tanzania, Uganda, Cameroon, Namibia, Zimbabbwe, Rwanda, Botswana, DR Congo, Zambia.

#### MINISTRY NEEDS YOU CAN PARTNER WITH US IN:

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- \$10 Per Month
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