Bridging the Sap with Delight, Florence and Ezechi Gwuagwu -June, 2021



**Abuja Bible College** Equipping and Encouraging Christian believers for faithful bible Reflections Share in the Father's joy And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with

Delight, Florence & Ezechi Swuaqwu

And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.' - Luke 15: 31-32 **ESV** 

The stories in Luke Chapter 15 about lost things- sheep, coin, and son reveal the heart ( the sacrifice, efforts and joy) of the owner (Our father God) share in finding the lost.

In the story of the lost or "prodigal son," we encounter the heart of the father who goes 'far beyond' to restore the lost. The notorious younger son is always considered really "lost" because he physically lost his **access** to the father for the **assets** from the father. Rather pathetically, the "loyal" elder son who was physically present with the father was spiritually lost to the father: to the heart and joys of the father.

Many Christians' default sympathy is with the one who went far away into physical sins. However, most of us inadvertently, are like the elder son who legalistically pursues the father's work/service and miss the heart of the father, and lose out on the joys that should be theirs in Christian service.

Such Christians, deep within them, do not share the joy of a terrible sinner who repents. There is a sense of "he/she has lived out all the sinful pleasure that the others could not and yet they are accepted by God on equal status." This explains why we destroy brothers and sisters who have fallen in one sin and in the spirit of Christ, I ask, "What has happened to restoration of the weak brother, (Gal. 6:2)?"

The line between these two is thin. However, it's important to remember that God, our Father is ever happy to restore any repentant lost, "away or at home," Alleluia!

# Family Updates

#### Ezechi

As part of the Priests in the Cathedral, I have been preaching quite regular, not only to model faithful Exposition, as well as trusting God to impart the congregation's lives. Serving as the Anglican Junior Seminary's Chaplain, I have been doing more teaching.

I have taught the Gospel of Mark with the students. It helped the students to understand what following Jesus truly is. Thankfully to God, some of the students came to genuinely place faith in Christ

#### Florence

She is coping well at the College work, in addition a Pastor's wife. She is actively involved in the ministry to the women at the Church in counselling and Bible teaching. She is traumatized by the incessant terror attacks and she has also been receiving treatment for panic attack.

### Delight

She is making progress in her academics as she has entered secondary school. She loves to read her bible and other literature. She is enjoying her Sunday school lessons. She is also growing taller.

## Abuja Bible College (ABC) News Staff Matters

**Paul** is doing fine. Paul and Cerafine welcomed their third child. He is taking more teaching sessions and also taking more responsibilities, which is very good.

Onesimus has improved much in his teaching and leadership competences. He has also taken more teaching.

### College Recruitment

We had 15 students enrolled for the course despite the Covid-'19 impact and the serious insecurity in Kaduna State. We already have 5 enrolled, for the next College year, which is a good sign for us.

### ABC Callege Permanent Site

We have recently received government allocation of 4 plot of Land for the College at the cost of One Million, four hundred thousand Naira, (N1.4m). It does not look like the ABC can remain at our present location at the ECWA Theological Seminary, Kagoro for much longer, as all persons that were involved in facilitating the partnership have all exited and the new people seem indifferent. So we should move before we are given notice. Moreover, we presently have 15 students and our class can only accommodate 16. We really need to move as we anticipate more students



Micah Ayuba

### Student's Testimony

Micah Ayuba, is my name and I am presently studying in Abuja Bible College (ABC) in Kagoro. Abuja Bible College (ABC) in Kagoro Nigeria has been for me a process of un-learning and re-learning. My study in the above mentioned institution has impacted positively my Bible interpretation ability. It has exposed me to the principles of expository preaching, widened my spectrum of understanding of the different genre of the books of the Bible. I have come to learn that context drives meaning in terms of interpretation and preaching from a particular passage of the Bible.

I learned that the Bible is a Christo-Centric Book, such that Christ gives it the cohesion from Genesis to Revelation. Therefore, when preaching from any passage of the Bible the teacher should "wear the glass" of Christ for its exposition. I also commend the effectiveness and commitment with which our teachers are handling the program. I recommend this training to Pastors, Church elders and leaders. Also Sunday school teachers and Bible study facilitators in Churches should enrol into this program, because it will give them a deeper understanding of how to handle and teach the Bible.

### Praise and Prayer Stems

Thank you for praying and for giving to our ministry.

- Praise God for His preservation in the midst of violent attacks, many of which is not reported.
- Praise God for the progress of the students.
- Pray for safety of lives of the students and staff from recurrent attacks from the Fulani Islamic Jihadist.
- Pray for the provision of funds to develop the ABC facility,
- Pray that the students continue to make progress.
- Pray for health, strength and energy to cope with the increased teaching work load.

#### For enquiries or partnership, call or e-mail;

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