

BEING THE BEST YOU CAN BE.

God always intended for us His people to be productive, fruitful, progressive, creative and impactful.

The first commandment He gave to the first man He created is located in **Genesis 1:28** where the Bible says, “**Then God blessed them, and God said to them “Be fruitful and multiply, fill the earth and subdue it”**”.

This commandment displays the heart of God towards mankind.

We were created to be productive, fruitful, progressive, we are meant to increase, grow and have impact that adds value to our generation.

Jesus taught us in **John 15:2 and 5**

²Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

⁵I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

The crux of that teaching was that if you are a branch in the vine, your use and sustainability as a branch is predicated upon your productivity and fruitfulness.

So it is not how big a branch you are or for how long you have been a branch that matters but whether you are producing any fruit.

God never intended for your life to be stagnant, unproductive and dependant on others for help.

Today and next week I want to minister on the subject **“Being the best you can be”**.

Being the best you can be is not about competing with others so that you feel good that you are the best among other people – competition many times is what breeds jealousy and envy and it is not of God.

In fact the Bible says that when we compare ourselves among ourselves we become unwise and lack understanding.

Becoming the best is about maximizing your God given potential in a way that makes you a productive citizen of God's Kingdom and you become a positive contributor to your generation.

Please note two (2) things that I said are important.

1. Being a productive, fruitful citizen and,
2. Making a positive contribution to your generation.

God has already deposited in your life all that you need to be productive, fruitful and progressive.

God never created anyone empty.

You were created loaded with potential, loaded with giftings, loaded with talent, loaded with abilities that are unique to you and you owe it to your generation to make a lasting positive impact.

The Bible is a book that chronicles story after story of men and women who were fruitful and delivered their generation.

From Abraham to Joseph to Moses to Joshua to Deborah to David to Nehemiah on and on all the way to Paul, Peter, John, Matthew, Luke, James – the Bible is loaded with stories of people who refused to sit back and spectate as life just passed by.

God created you to be the BEST you can be.

Romans 8:19 “The earnest expectation of creation waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God”.

These are sons who are walking in power, authority and understanding who refuse to be intimidated by their past but are ready to work in the present to create a successful future.

What to do

1. You must work on who you are more than what you do.

I like something my son John Ndeere said, **“Your fulfillment in life depends more on the person you become than on the things you do or acquire”.**

So it is more important who you become because that is more important than what you do.

In fact your public display is a manifestation of your private life.

A chain is as strong as its weakest link – so you are not disqualified in life for your strengths but for your weakness.

To be the best you can be – begin by working on your character.

You will continue to loose in life as long as you seek to be rewarded for your good points while refusing to recognize your weaknesses.

You are not just rewarded for strong points but you are rewarded in life for having completely dealt with your weak points.

Being the best you can be demands that you recognize your weak points instead of blaming others for the pain in your life.

The hand of God will only work in our lives to the degree that we are willing to allow His word to bring the best out of us.

Being the best you can be demands that you line up your life with the word.

Throwing emotional tantrums will not move you forward but just bring stagnation.

Please just take responsibility of your failure and mistakes and watch God change your life.

2. For you to be the best you can be you need to connect with Isaiah 60:1 “Arise and shine for thy light has come”.

Arise – in deep Greek means “Get up from your lazy behind and work”.

Also in Hebrew it means the same.

Just get up because you cannot shine until you arise.

Stop complaining of the degree you don't have and the diploma you didn't get and get up and work.

Wishing and complaining and belly-aching will never produce results – but working will.

Striving for success without hard work is like trying to harvest where you have not planted.

Proverbs 24:33-34

³³Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:

³⁴So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man.

I cannot understand this business of man being left at home the whole day to watch television while the wife goes to work.

That is out of order – man you should be the first one out of the house to go and labor for your house.

The Bible says in **1 Timothy 5:8**

⁸But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.

But Pastor you don't understand, I don't have a job – we need as a Nation especially the youth to come out of this thinking of get a job to thinking I can create a job.

Many of the young people are on FACEBOOK. There are over half a billion people on that Facebook – an idea that was conceived by two (2) university students in a dorm.

It is now valued at billions of dollars.

Listen to me ARISE, if you have two hands use them, if you have two legs use them, if you have a mouth use it.

It is better to fail while trying than fail to try.

Doing nothing will produce exactly that – NOTHING.

Work appears over 500 times in the Bible.

Work is a blessing from God because it allows us to express our gifts, talents, abilities and capacity.

If the business failed it is not you that failed, it is the business.

You are not a failure because the business failed- failure is a situation not a person.

So quit feeling sorry for yourself and get up – ARISE, yes you were rejected by your parents, get up, yes you did not pass the exams, arise.

Yes you were divorced, arise.

Listen, what you are going through is not special to you, somebody else has gone through worse and made it – so ARISE.

Signs of laziness:

- 1) Lazy people do not acknowledge they are lazy
Prov 26:16 “The lazy man is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who can answer sensibly.”
- 2) Lazy people love their beds. **Prov 26:14 “As a door turns on its hinges, so does the lazy man on his bed.”**
- 3) Lazy people find excuses for not doing things **Prov 22:13 “The lazy man says, There is a lion outside, I shall be slain in the streets.”** A lazy person invents reasons for not working even when they don't have any.

4) Lazy people wait for perfect conditions before they get busy. **Prov 20:4 “The lazy man will not plow because of winter; he will beg during harvest and have nothing.”**

5) Lazy people are not self-starters, they wait for others to motivate them. **Prov 6:6-8 “Go to the ant, you sluggard, consider her ways and be wise, which having no captain, overseer or ruler, provides her supplies in the summer, and gathers her food in the harvest.”**

If you need to be pushed to do it, you are lazy.

6) Lazy people don't finish what they start. **Prov 26:15 “The lazy man buries his hand in the bowl, it wearies him to bring it back to his mouth.”**

Lazy people never complete a task properly. They are thrilled to start, but lack the capacity to continue. They are not interested in the hard part.

7) Lazy people love explaining why it wasn't done.

Prov 10:26 “As vinegar to the teeth and smoke to the eyes, so is the lazy man to those who send him.”

8) Lazy people are not organized, they have a chaotic life.

Prov 15:19 “The way of the lazy man is like a hedge of thorns, but the way of the upright is a highway.”

Lazy people blame others for their own deficiencies and lack of diligence. They shift focus from themselves to others.

9) Laziness lets outside influences overwhelm inside desires which leads to decay and destruction.

Ecc 10:18 “Because of laziness the building decays, and through idleness of hands the house leaks.”

10) Lazy people never fulfill dreams.

It is said that Christians always want the easy way out. I prayed and God did. There is a part to pray and a part to play.

Proverbs 6:6-11 (NIV)

6 Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise!

7 It has no commander, no overseer or ruler,

8 yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest.

9 How long will you lie there, you sluggard? When will you get up from your sleep?

10 A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest — 11 and poverty will come on you like a thief and scarcity like an armed man.

Wisdom (definition) – comprehensive insight into the ways and purposes of God.

The wisdom of the ant.

1. It has no commander, no overseer, no ruler.

It doesn't require supervision to do its work.

It is disciplined enough to know what to do and when to do it.

If you still need supervision to work you are still a baby.

If you still need someone to wake you up, tell you what to do and when to do it – you are not wise.

Don't be a sukuma twende.

It talks of personal creativity and innovation.

How can you be a candidate of running from your office before time and lazily walking back at 2:30pm instead of 2:00pm – be self driven, self motivated, self disciplined.

2. That its diligence covers up for lack of strength.

Wisdom is better than strength and a man of knowledge increases strength.

3. It stores up in summer – that means it has the capacity to plan ahead – so it sees the future and plans for the future. Many believers live for now with no fore thought or fore sight for the future.

Start to plan for your future now – start saving up for your wedding – don't wait until you are getting married that is when you are running helter-skelter – not just the men even you ladies.

4. It works hard in summer – summer is a difficult time to labor because it is very hot.

They work in the heat instead of waiting for the opportune time.

Don't complain about the economy – work now.

Delayed gratification.

Ecclesiastes 11:4

⁴He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.

Don't be a mummerer – work.

5. Gathers her food in harvest.

This is an important lesson – it has the patience to wait until the harvest is ready.

It doesn't run before its time but waits until harvest time to gather her food.

If it didn't wait until harvest it would gather food that is not ready – if it missed out on harvest the harvest would be over ripe and rotten. It has a sense of TIMING.

WAIT FOR HARVEST.

No matter how prayerful you are if you don't put yourself to work God will watch POVERTY plague you.