



# CBS



...Transforming lives, impacting the nations

## COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY

Thursday July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010

7:00PM

STUDY OUTLINE #033

**Text: Judges 6: 1-24; John 17**

**Theme: Sustaining your new Identity, part 2**

We will continue this week with our quest for sustaining our new identity. We have a new identity, spiritually and physically in our lives, families and nation when we achieve what literally does not come by easily. Such things as a redeemed life, promotion into office, high network enterprise or endeavour, transformed nation and citizenry are fashioned by the merciful God and re-define us. Our interest in this study is the ability to keep these new, distinct and unique developments and boldly say like David, "In my prosperity, I shall not be moved" Psalm 30:6; this suggesting the possibility of being moved, losing focus, momentum and renegeing on promises.

### 1. Scope

We are using the profiles of prominent characters all raised by God namely, Peter, Moses, Gideon, King Uzziah, etc. to give us divine strategies for sustaining us at the new level. How did they build on their status?

### 2. Principles - Romans 15:4

From their dealings, we will learn practises that will put us on the right path to maintain relevance before God, advance kingdom principles, maintain a good testimony and finish strong.

**2i.** Peter was a fisher man; an occupation which formed in him the trait of being energetic and able to endure. Though he was by nature bold and stubborn, yet he was also very impulsive and fickle until Christ gave him a turning point in his life; from reed-like creature to a rock. Luke 22: 31-34, Ephesians 2:20, 1 Corinth 3:11.

Lessons we learn from Peter -

#### a. Confront the status quo

We must not be passive, but confront the things that hinder us; we have to dare them. This gives us fresh zest and releases power to overcome limitations, barriers, hurdles and glide on. Peter did not spare the same authorities that intimidated him, Acts 4 & 5; Nehemiah 2-6. Check also the Hebrew Dynasty in Babylon, Daniel Chapters 1-6.

#### b. Keep a tab on the Holy Spirit.

Keep solid fellowship with the Holy Spirit who releases fresh unction, direction and establishment for the work - Acts 10:38; Acts 1:8; 4:31-33. Check out Zerubbabel - Zechariah 4:6.

#### c. Endeavour to be on the same page with God.

God sustains what He has a stake in. His area of interest is revealed in His purpose for every life. We must be consumed by what burdens Him. This keeps His passion alive and brings you to His power slot. Gideon connected to His heart beat and aligned with Him. Press into Him, discover and embrace your purpose. 2 Timothy 1: 8-9

**Moses and Gideon connected to God and embraced their purpose and He sustained them. Judges 6:1- end; Exodus 2, Acts 7:1-50**

## **SUSTAINING YOUR NEW IDENTITY 2** *(Continued)*

### **d. Refuse the snares and entrapment of the new position.**

Gideon became a victim of the snares of a new position. He justified and institutionalized the things he once condemned. King Saul was also not spared - Judges 8: 22-35; 1 Samuel 28.

### **e. Remain accountable**

We must have people we are willing to be accountable to (i.e., people we are ready and willing to explain our actions to). They are individuals we are vulnerable to, who speak into our lives and correct our attitude before we self-destruct. Samuel remained accountable to Eli for as long it lasted - 1 Samuel 1.

King Uzziah, though greatly privileged, is a sad commentary on accountability - 2 Chronicles 26.

### **The last line**

The above experiences are worth taking into consideration. Most of the characters maintained healthy conviction and commitment to the word of God and considered same more than their necessary food.

It should be clear to us that **God is His word** and He expresses Himself through vessels yielded to His Word. As His word takes on flesh, intimacy and continuous manifestation is guaranteed. **Hebrew 10:5-10; Luke 24:31-33; Jeremiah 20:9; Luke 5:5; Job 23:12,**

As we determine in our hearts to put God's word on the front burner of our lives, same will work for us to entrench fulfilment and sustenance at all times.

Philippians 2:13; Hebrew 7:25; John 5:19-21

**Prayer - Lord give me grace to humble myself before you at all times, Psalm 131**