MARCH, 2022

Official Newsletter of the Palace of Priests Assembly (PPA) and its social arm the Priests Peace and Justice Initiative (PPJ).

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Pastor (Dr.) Otive Ighuzor
General Overseer
Palace of PRIESTS ASSEMBLY

PFJ 2-day training on Social arm and development of strategic plan in collaboration with the Kano State Chapter of the PFN.

Induction ceremony of the PFN National Director of research and strategy Prof. James Nsia Jacob as the regional coordinator of the northern region of Foursquare Gospel Church.

Panelists at the National summit of Christian Women against corruption in Abuja.

Panelists at the National summit of youth vanguard against corruption in Abuja.

Award recipients at the national summit of Women against corruption in Abuja.

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PPJ HOLDS ONE-DAY CHRISTIAN WOMEN AGAINST CORRUPTION NATIONAL SUMMIT

Priests Peace and Justice Initiative (PPJ), the social arm of Palace of PRIESTS ASSEMBLY (PPA) on Tuesday, March 8, 2022 in Abuja hosted the Christian women against corruption national summit with the theme: The Christian Woman and the Fight Against Corruption. It also marked the celebration of International Women’s Day with the theme: Break the Bias. The workshop which is part of activities in the implementation of the SHUN CORRUPTION project by the PPJ/PPA and supported by the Catherine T. and John D. MacArthur Foundation is geared towards mobilizing Christian women, especially Pentecostals, to join in the fight against corruption in Nigeria.

In this year’s International Women’s Day, PPJ/PPA celebrated the exceptional work of women around the World; especially the Christian women who are working round the clock to strengthen the fight against corruption which is one of the campaign platforms for the Shun Corruption Project. It is one of the requirements for setting a positive example, showing that women are not only victims of corruption, but also key players in the struggle against it.

At this year’s meeting the women shared their experiences and stories of change and were also recognized and profiled for displaying integrity in preventing and rejecting corruption.

In a press statement issued in Abuja by Ms. Ojonugwa Negedu, Programme Officer, to commemorate this year’s international women’s day, the organization said “Women all over the world wants and deserve an equal future free from stigma, stereotypes and violence; a future that’s sustainable, peaceful, with equal rights and opportunities for all. To get us there, Nigeria needs women at every table where decisions are being made.” According to her while corruption affects people across all genders, ages and races, it hits poor and vulnerable groups the hardest, especially women. Gender-specific forms of corruption deepen inequality, hinder women’s empowerment, and are a violation of human rights.
In his welcome address, the Program Director and General overseer of the Palace of Priests Assembly, Pastor Otive Igbugo stated that it is significant that the theme of this year's international women's day is #breakthebias. In the history of the church, the Pentecostal movement represents a quantum leap in breaking the bias against women in line with the scriptures. The bible is very clear that there should be no discrimination based on sex, ethnic group, or class: Gal 2: 28. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male or female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus (NIV).

Col 3 :11 Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all and is in all (NIV)

Pentecostal churches recognize the place of women in the church and society and it is our expectation that Pentecostal women leaders will occupy their pride of place in the ethical re-orientation that is needed in society today.

He enjoined all participants to join hands with the project team and make this work and change the face of Pentecostalism not only in Nigeria but across the world.

In her remark, the program officer, Ms. Negeedu stated that; “the marginalization of women in economic development and in social and political spaces is a worldwide phenomenon; however, it is worst in developing countries. In Nigeria, despite the adoption of the United Nation’s convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women in 1985 and similar local policies, such as the National Gender Policy of 2006, inequality still exists due to myriad of cultural and structural challenges.”

She emphasized that this has constrained women's participation in all spheres of life with serious implications for human resource development and, in that capacity, economic development of the country and the general state of gender equality and referred to research over the years which has shown that women lay behind men in most indicators of socio-economic development and they constitute most of the poor, the unemployed and the socially disadvantaged.
Starting the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of women, Ms. Ngedu said; “Gender equality is fundamentally linked to sustainable development and is vital to the realization of human rights for all”. The overall objective of gender equality is a society in which men and women enjoy the same opportunities, rights, and obligations in all spheres of life. Gender equality benefits everyone and it has been conclusively shown to stimulate economic growth which is crucial for developing countries like Nigeria.

Expressing support for this year’s theme, she said the IWD is a rallying cry for Nigerians to choose to break gender bias and stereotypes saying that individually, we are all responsible for our own thoughts and actions – all day, every day. We can all choose to challenge and call out gender bias and inequality and collectively, we can help create an inclusive World.

The workshop was an eye-opening event for the Christian women drawn across all board from different churches and also enhanced the women effectiveness to advocate and campaign against corruption from a Christian perspective with emphasis on ethical values in Christianity that abhors corruption. These will boost women participation in national development in Nigeria and increase the social responsibility component of the church for the benefit of the members and the society at large.

She urged all the participants to be committed to the project, as this will lead to the effective implementation of the project. The statement further enjoined all Christians and all Nigerians to join this year’s campaign theme #BreakTheBias and to imagine a world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination.

Ngedu explained that the actions of everyone can create a world that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive and lastly, a world where difference is valued and celebrated. “Collectively we can all #BreakTheBias. Individually, we’re all responsible for our own thoughts and actions - all day, every day.” She said.
Gender inequality and corruption: Perspectives, trends, and way forward

Pastor Ejiro Otive-Igbozor

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) is a concept that addresses unequal power relations experienced by people on the grounds of gender, wealth, ability, location, race, caste/ethnicity, language and agency or a combination of these dimensions. It focuses on the need for action to re-balance these power relations, reduce disparities and ensure equal rights, opportunities and respect for all individuals regardless of their social identity.

Nations are built on the FOUNDATION of female Leadership and Management: Women birth, mould and nurture Presidents; Women remain key influencers of Presidents in addition to being Presidents themselves; Powerful female first ladies. Leadership is influence; every woman and girl is a leader! Women occupy important leadership positions in every sector: Hajia Amina Mohammed is the Deputy Sec Gen of the UN; Okonjo-Iweala, our Distinguished Senators and Honourable house of representative members, etc. Women are feeding the world – 60-70% of Agriculture and management of the ecosystem. Women’s participation in politics and elections has improved (Beijing report)

when one individual unconsciously attributes certain attitudes and stereotypes to another person or group of people. These ascribed behaviours affect how the individual understands and engages with others.

Whether deliberate or unconscious, the bias makes it difficult for women to move ahead. Knowing that bias exists isn’t enough. Action is needed to level the playing field.”

Benefits of women’s participation

+Higher numbers of women in parliament and other public office positions generally contribute to stronger attention to family issues; education; water, health, etc

+Countries that place women’s issues on the agenda have better Human Development Indices overall e.g. Nordic countries (MMR indices)

+Women in public office encourage greater political engagement by other women

+Research on panchayats (local councils) in India discovered that the number of drinking water projects in areas with women-led councils was 62% higher than in those with men-led councils.

+In Norway, a direct causal relationship between the presence of women in municipal councils and childcare coverage was found

+Evidence that women’s leadership in political decision-making processes improves them.

+Women demonstrate political leadership by working across party lines through parliamentary women’s caucuses - championing issues of gender equality, such as the elimination of gender-based violence, parental leave and childcare, pensions, gender-equality laws and electoral reform.
WOMEN EXPERIENCE CORRUPTION DIFFERENTLY

Corruption disproportionately affects vulnerable populations and hits the poor the hardest, especially women, who represent a higher share of the world’s poor.

In society, gender commonly delineates divisions of labour, control over resources and decision-making, from the domestic sphere up to the top echelons of government. Women, are usually not favoured. Women remain the primary caretakers of the family, they can be regularly confronted with corruption when accessing public services such as health, education, water and sanitation.

There is also evidence that exploitation of the human body, sexually or otherwise, can be used as a currency in corruption – SEXTORTION

Have less spare money – Corruption impoverishes her.

How does corruption affect women differently?
- Women’s need for reproductive healthcare can leave them at the mercy of corrupt health providers.
- Children can be deprived of education altogether when families cannot afford the costs of schooling which may be artificially increased through the demand for bribes.
- Grassroots women ranked business and employment as the second-highest service area prone to bribes after the public sector.
- Vulnerable groups in society are more frequently subjected to monetary bribes or solicited for sexual favours in exchange for employment or operating a business, hindering their ability to earn an income or sustain their business.

Gender Inequality Promotes Corruption

- In Peru an all-male traffic police force was replaced with women which had a marked impact on systemic bribery schemes by breaking up well-established networks of male traffic police. What this may show is that disrupting the status quo of single-gender networks is probably more effective in fighting corruption, as they seem to be inherently more predisposed to corruption.
- Research also indicates that gender equality is an important tool to help prevent corruption.
- Some studies suggest listed companies with a greater number of women in decision-making positions perform better in terms of ethics, and corruption levels and perform better financially. This suggests that increasing the share of women in male-dominated workplaces or public institutions could disrupt embedded corruption. However, more research is needed to appreciate fully the underlying causes of this effect.

Gender and the United Nations Convention against Corruption

- States Parties are required to develop strategies to address corruption under the Convention, but it is exceptional that national anti-corruption strategies harness gender equality as an agent for change and inclusion.
- Gender inequality undermines some people’s ability to participate in decision-making processes and public policies often fail to give attention to the specific needs of vulnerable groups.
- The Nigerian Anti-Corruption Strategy is Gender Blind, so are its macro-economic policies

What Do We Need To Do?

Tap into opportunities-
- Pentecostals recognize the place of women in ministry. Seize the moment.
- Constitution review through the GESI lens
  - Knowledge building of women and men
  - Lobby our legislators
- Step down the training in our various constituencies to build knowledge and support for gender equality.
- The Christian Women Community to continue to add her voice to calls for reforms.
- Take personal responsibility personally to Shun, Speak Up and Stand/Take Action against Corruption.
Presentation of the Shun Corruption Project 2.0 by the Program Manager, Dr. Agbaji Orinya

The overarching goal of the project is to promote zero tolerance for corruption among Pentecostals through adherence to positive group norms, peer-to-peer accountability, and the institutionalization of platforms against corruption.

The specific objectives include:

1. To promote the establishment of the social arm of the church as an instrument for fighting corruption and adopting an accountability framework for Pentecostal churches.
2. To enhance the capacity and capability of the Pentecostal Community in Nigeria to adopt the social arm of the church and accountability framework within the church and champion the fight against corruption outside the Church (in communities, towns unions, workplaces, academic institutions, marketplaces, etc).
3. To enhance the ‘voice’ and ‘agency’ of Pentecostal leaders and workers as active citizens performing their civic duties, and participating in politics, elections, and governance in Nigeria.
4. To activate Pentecostal campaign platforms visibly taking collective action against corruption.
5. To promote behavior change among Pentecostal Churches regarding accountability within and outside the church.

The first phase of the project has shown the potential for behavior change by Pentecostal Christians to engage in social issues and join the fight against corruption. We witnessed the emergence of new cultures by individual Pentecostal leaders from testimonies and stories of change. However, these norms and practices have not been institutionalized in the individual churches or as a group.

In this project, consolidating the SHUN Corruption Project, we will focus on grounding these norms and practices and elevating the motivation for changing individual and group behavior so that more churches will establish social arms to address social issues and fight against corruption.

We envisage a ripple effect that would elevate the voices of Pentecostals as active citizens against corruption in communities, and workplaces at the State and National levels. The emerging culture of zero tolerance to corruption would be elevated to become a group norm as we showcase and celebrate individuals who utilize our 3S Model - Shun; Speak and Stand up against corruption.

Public profiling and recognition of individual and group (Churches and other platforms) action against corruption would be one of the incentives for behavior change.

We will focus on grounding these norms and practices and elevating the motivation for changing individual and group behavior so that more churches will establish social arms to address social issues and fight against corruption.
PHOTO NEWS
FROM
THE PPJ CHRISTIAN WOMEN AGAINST CORRUPTION
NATIONAL SUMMIT
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FROM
THE PPJ CHRISTIAN WOMEN AGAINST CORRUPTION
NATIONAL SUMMIT

Some award recipients at the CWAC National Summit
PHOTO NEWS FROM THE PPJ CHRISTIAN WOMEN AGAINST CORRUPTION NATIONAL SUMMIT
PHOTO NEWS
FROM
THE PPJ CHRISTIAN WOMEN
AGAINST CORRUPTION
NATIONAL SUMMIT
One of the objectives of the shun corruption project is to promote the establishment of the social arm of the church as an instrument for fighting corruption and adopting accountability framework for Pentecostal churches. The role of the PFN in operationalizing the social arm of the church is to accept, popularize and give priority to the dual mandate by institutionalizing the social arm as a core practice in Pentecostal churches, encouraging, supporting, and motivating members to establish the social arm. The strategic plan is a schedule of an organizational management activities, set of priorities where an organization focuses her energy and resources and ensures that everyone is working towards a common goal. PPA/PPJ gives technical support to churches that are interested in setting up their social arms and supports them in developing their strategic plan.

The Kano State PFN Chairman, Rev(Dr.) R.O. Olowo, giving his welcome address at the Summit on Establishment of social arm and development of strategic plan for Pentecostal Leaders in Kano state organized by Priests Peace and Justice initiative in collaboration with PFN, Kano State chapter on 10th March, 2022.
PHOTO NEWS FROM THE TWO DAYS SUMMIT IN KANO
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Vanguard Youth Against Corruption National Summit

Priests Peace and Justice Initiative (PPJ), the social arm of the Palace of Priests Assembly (PPA) in collaboration with the Frontline Youth Creativity Initiative (FYCI) on Tuesday, March 22, 2022, organized a National Youth Summit with the theme “The Mind and the fight against Corruption.”

The workshop, which is part of activities in the implementation of the SHUN CORRUPTION project by the Priests Peace and Justice Initiative (PPJ)/Palace of Priests Assembly (PPA) and supported by the MacArthur Foundation is geared towards mobilizing Christian Youths, especially Pentecostals called “Vanguard,” to join in the fight against corruption in Nigeria and have zero tolerance for corruption.

A statement by Dr. Agbaji Orinya, the Programme Manager of PPJ said that young people are the greatest asset and future of any nation and serve as the bridge that links the present to future generations. They are active, dynamic, and adventurous and can serve as agents of social action and social change and there is, therefore, the need to build the personal factors and motivate people to act on the environment to change behavior in order to maintain public support for anti-corruption. The summit is a way of organizing locally for the impact that can contribute to providing zero tolerance for corruption.

He also spoke on the beginning point of the project which is the study of Christianity & Anti-Corruption including the examination of the Holy Bible in its entirety and documentation of reasons, with scriptural backing/references why Christians should not engage in corruption but instead fight against it.

According to him this forum will mobilize and empower Christian youths to be fully engaged and visibly serve as anti-corruption champions in their various constituencies and also re-orient the mind to shun, speak against and stand against corruption so that we can create a new society that the young people of today can be proud of tomorrow.

The workshop, which was an eye-opening event for the youth drawn across all boards from different churches and states, has enhanced the youth’s effectiveness to advocate and campaign against corruption from a Christian perspective with emphasis on ethical values in Christianity that abhors corruption. It has also strengthened their capacity for personal development in readiness for a fruitful future. These will boost youth participation in national development in Nigeria and increase the social responsibility component of the church for the benefit of the members and the society.

He urged all the participants to be committed to the project, which will lead to the effective implementation of the project. The statement further enjoined all Christians and youths, to join hands together and make the project work to change the face of Pentecostalism not only in Nigeria but across the world.
FEEDING YOUR MIND, EMOTION AND WILL IN PURSUIT OF VISION AGAINST CORRUPTION
BY PASTOR INNOCENT ADANEHI

Corruption is the intentional subversion of due process or the pure norm in any engagement, transaction, or undertaking. Money, for example, is an indifferent property but the process of its acquisition makes it either corrupt or pure. So also a young man or lady can be in a corrupt marriage process if there are deviations from the prescriptions of God. The insatiable hunger for primitive accumulation of wealth is most susceptible to corruption so is a mentality that gravitates around things. These resonate with a mind that is prone to “acquisition by all means”. A man remains the property of the Spirit, that's why we are Spirit beings living on the earth so, our ideals must be spiritual and consonant with the God of our being.

Many youths have sold their minds to the earthly and such swallow in corruption for their satisfaction. Luckily, there are many youths that are positively different. These must be identified, harvested, and encouraged as Palace of Priests Assembly (PPA) & Priests Peace & Justice Initiative are doing commendably.

The emphasis on youths is compelling because the 20 – 40 years category is the overwhelming 70% of the Nigerian population. Youths, because, the future of the nation is in their hands without negotiation. Youths, because, the quality of the legacy of the elders is the quality of the youths groomed by them. Their strength, vibrancy, and long-term vision are absolutely needed in any fight that must be long drawn as the fight against corruption.

‘Give me my youth back and I will pay any price for it’ - Dr Nnamdi Azikiwe

This icon regrets his helplessness at retrieving the years of his youth, especially the parts he felt unsatisfied with. It's a privilege therefore that you have yours in your hands. Job had his own reminiscence of the golden past as food for thought for all youths.

Oh that I was as in months past, as in the days when God preserved me; When his candle shined upon my head, and when by his light I walked through darkness; As I was in the days of my youth, when the secret of God was in my tabernacle; - Job 29: 2- 4

I like the obvious emphasis on ‘his candle shined upon my head’--- LIGHTS and ‘ the secret of God was in my tabernacle’….. DIVINE INSIGHT.

A thick wave of influence is tending towards a preponderance of the negative, a glorification of evil and impunity by a lot of young people. More and more, therefore, we must fortify our capacity to demonstrate the power of NO in a pure conscience.

Scriptures identify natural conscience, evil conscience, seared conscience, defiled conscience, and a dead conscience. These are fertile grounds for corrupt tendencies. Scriptures also recommend a convicting, purged, and pure conscience as capable of confronting corruption. So Paul said, "Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God unto this day. And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offense towards God and toward men". ACTS 23:1. 24:16. It is said that the conscience is man's most faithful friend. It tells you the best for you per time exclusively. However, if it's promptings are continually forsaken it could become your deadliest foe.
There are three triggers of a pure conscience.
1. Purity of Heart. A pure heart has a strong capacity to resist evil. So, David, one day told his son Solomon in 1 Chronicle 28:9 "...serve with a perfect heart and a willing mind, for the Lord searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts..."
2. Purity of Motive. Why are you taking that action or doing that thing?
3. Purity of Desires. Why do you want that particular power, position, or property? Acts 8:9-24 verses 19-24 explain particularly the impure desires of the man Simon’s quest to possess the power to lay hands on people for them to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. He would make merchandise of it.

Let us note quickly that there are three spectrums for the fight against corruption namely:
1. The content on the individual’s mind
2. Development of ironclad system or process or procedures
3. Wholesome and drastic enforcement of strict anti-corruption legislation. These refer to the indoctrination of the mind, strong, dynamic, or self-adjusting mechanism or structure, and harsh punishment for offenders. The functionality of even these is subject to the management of the mind, emotion, and will, for the efficacy of all information; rules and structure are at the mercy of man’s operation.

The heart is used interchangeably with the mind. The scriptures said Luke 6:45 "... For of the abundance of his heart the mouth speaketh." You speak against corruption from the overflow of your mind’s content against it. Then the contention will flow seamlessly as smoke through the chimney.

Let us remember that YOUR MIND is the data processing center for the generation of relevant information for life-changing applications. Your mind receives data from the brain and the five senses for processing into needed information, that is, from intuition, inspiration, and the environment.

YOUR EMOTION refers to your levels of love, joy, sadness, anger, hate, fear, worry, tensions, peacefulness, swinging or stable mood, and other psycho motive dispositions.

YOUR WILL refers to your ability and strength of decision-making.

Practically, the three operate in a systemic form but the output of the mind has a strong effect on the emotions and the will just as innate endowment and life experiences would.

A good man out of the good treasures of his heart brings forth that which is good. Matthew 12:35. You must upload pure treasures into your mind to saturate your emotions and govern your will. You must guard your mind fiercely.

You stand your ground by putting on the belt of truth. Truth is the course of the ideal. It is not what is spread around but what is produced from the appropriate and godly source. For example, it is apt to agree that the incorruptible mind produces the best leadership all over the world. It is also right to believe that there are many who are not corrupt and they only shall be our model.

You shun something by reason of your disdain and hatred for the thing. This ought to be the outcome of relevant information and the management of your emotions and will to take a position decisively.

How do I feed my mind, emotions, and will on the battlefield of corruption, to win it?
1. Be connected to the right source of influence. In other words, be sure of the sanctity of your connections. This revolves around
   a. Your complete submission to God,
   b. Connection to men of proven character and antecedents for modeling, motivating, mentoring, and multiplying. Daniel 3: 16-17 “Hannah, Azariah and Mishael answered and said to the King, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God, whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace and he will deliver us out of thy hand O King”
1 Corinthians 11:1 “Be ye, followers of me, even as I also am of Christ”. Philippians 2:19 “But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timotheus shortly unto you, ...for I have no man like-minded who will naturally care for your state for all seek their own...but ye know the proof of him that, as a son with the father he has served with me in the Gospel. Him, therefore, I hope to send presently,”

2. Continuous intake of the right diet.
   What are you eating? Job said ‘Neither have I gone back from the commandments of his lips; I have esteemed the word of his mouth more than my necessary food’. 23:12. Daniel purposed in his heart not to defile himself with the portion of the Kings meat, nor with the Kings wine so God gave him knowledge, skills in all learning and wisdom and had understanding in all visions and dreams. He became ten times better than those that polluted their minds. All corrupt proceeds becloud your power of clear understanding and wisdom, castrates vision and dreams. Daniel 1:8, 17, 18, 20. Paul told his mentee, till I come give attendance to reading, exhortation, doctrine and to meditate upon these things and give thyself wholly to them, that thy profiting may appear to all. 1 Timothy 3:13, 15.
   These were incorruptible generational icons. We should be interested in what made them outstanding. What are you seeing, reading, hearing, watching on Social media, movies, ill temperate books and magazines etc. Do not pollute you mind with the delicacies of the world that tend to reduce you to their level. You are superior. Divine meals empower you to fly. Read scriptures, autobiographies of outstanding leaders, stories of nations with unparalleled success in good governance. You are thereby empowered to speak against, stand against, and shun the corruption and the ineptitude of the world. You will recall that your reading mix (Books etc) and your relationship mix are a prophecy of your future ten years hence.

3. Have a permanent consciousness of what you carry.
   Ye are Gods unto whom the word of God had come. As the God of Israel liveth before whom I stand. John and Elijah, fiery models said these.
   Can you turn down a juicy contract from an alcohol brewing or a cigarette company having regard to your higher consciousness? Paul said I am sure of what I carry therefore “those things which ye have both learned and received and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of Peace shall be with you”.
   Do not seek for a life of ease, pray for powers equal to your tasks.
   You are practically operating where it is increasingly easier to do evil than to do right. The applause for evil that bring urgent increases without a pinch of foreboding is higher today. Nonconformist conducts are received with cold shoulders even among the people paid to enforce strict compliance to procedures. That is why your little light can shine glowingly today. You have chosen to operate from above and to be above all. Elevate yourself.

"Those who follow the crowd would never be followed by a crowd" – John C Maxwell.

"The reasonable man adapts himself to the world, the unreasonable one persist in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore, all progress depends on the unreasonable man." – George Bernard Shaw.

Running against the tide of corruption could be dangerous. The status quo mentality is unfortunately eventually retrogressive. The majority is often wrong. thus Exodus 23. 2 said ‘thou shalt not follow the multitude to do evil neither shalt thou speak in a cause to decline after many to wrest judgment’. In the church today, expect only four out twenty persons in any group to insist on the high standard of God. The sixteen majority are wrong even if they are in agreement. Genesis 11 tells us that the tower of Babel architects were united in one accord but wrong notwithstanding.

The Lord knoweth them that are his. Let anyone that nameth the name of the Lord depart from iniquity. Corruption is an iniquity with supersonic missile in destructive capacity given what it has done against National Integration, economic sustainability and the mentality of Nigerians. We can and must stop it. If you want to follow God today, you must be a “dissident”. Putting it graphically, if the generality of people are going the east direction, be determined to go west. Take the opposite direction to the world. Let us make this a personal fight and so be prepared for war. The world yields to the audacious. You must keep the lion heart.

The efficient and effective management of your MIND, EMOTION and WILL definitely foster a disciplined and controlled personality.

"I beseech you therefore brethren, by the merces of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service and be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind that ye may prove what is that good and perfect will of God" – Romans 12: 1 – 2.

The fight against corruption can only be fought by a disciplined person that had brought himself under the absolute control of the will of God. The fight is the will of God. Romans 13 and 14 give us detail prescription, personalizing the fight against corruption.

The disciplined and controlled personality produces:

1. Organized living. You must be painstaking, articulate and given to blocking all frivolous holes around your living. The devil looks for our soft spots in life in order to attack, so does corruption. It feeds on our loose living.

2. Operating in dynamic patterns. “Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves, be ye therefore wild as serpents and harmless as doves”
- Matthew 10:16. Be crafty. Behave wisely, very wisely, more wisely like David in 1 Samuel 18.5.15.30.

3. Strong personal restraints. Even to make heaven requires strong personal restraint. The lousy, the presumptuous and those given to new things perpetually would never make heaven and right here such cannot contend against corruption. You must restrain yourself from the grabby mentality. The spoils of corruption are gravely tempting. The path to heaven is narrow so are the alternatives against corruption are slim.

4. Firm on principles. Only people firm on principles can become principals on the earth. Your voice must be heard above the common voices only if you perpetuate your principles everywhere.

5. Conservative-check, checks, and re-checks FOR EXCELLENCE, not given to acting on spurs of the moment. The air force insists on check, re-check and check again to ensure that their position is leak-proof and failure-proof. These must be our disposition as corruption fighters.
PHOTO NEWS from the Youth Vanguard Against Corruption national Summit
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from the
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Panel discussion at the youth vanguard against corruption national summit 2022

The newly inaugurated national steering committee of the youth vanguard against corruption made up of the national vice president of the student Christian movement of Nigeria, the CPFN youth chairman of the 19 northern states, the Kano state youth PFN chairman, the Gombe state youth PFN chairman, the Benue state Joint campus Christian fellowship president, a representative of the Frontline youth creativity initiative and other members from Ebonyi state and Rivers state.
During the month of March, the popular PPJ radio program Voice of The Priests Against Corruption (VOTPAC) with Pastor Oche Ocheme “Oche the King” as host, had many wonderful guests who spoke on different topics bothering on the fight against corruption. The program which held every Wednesday from 10:05 AM, had as guests the likes of Dr. Cosmas Ilechukwu, the General Overseer, Charismatic Renewal Ministries, Tammie Edet Kammonke, Archbishop John Alagbala Osa Oni, and Reverend Alex Baba.
PHOTO NEWS

The S/West Liaison Officer for PPJ
Pastor Joe Igbozor

The PPJ S/West Liaison officer, Pastor Joe Igbozor on an Advocacy visit to Reverend Dr. Dele Ajayi's office, The Chaplain, Chapel of Christ the Light Lagos on the 27th of March, 2022

Rev. Dr. Samuel Ucho (middle)

Pastor Anthony Chukwuneme, the PPJ S/South liaison officer during an advocacy visit to Reverend Samuel Ucho. He is a strong believer in the fight against corruption and shared his experience while working as a supervisor with the National Examination Body. According to him, he discovered that the system has been deeply infested with corruption. After working with them for just a year, he resigned and forfeited his entitlements rather than compromise. He is excited to collaborate with PPJ in the fight against corruption.
Striking testimonies in PPA from the month of March

Healing Testimony
One of PPA’s anointing is the spirit of healing. God healed Ogo-Oluwa and restored her broken leg after prolonged recumbency resulting from injury sustained from a fall.

Testimony of Continuous Progress as a PPA member dedicates a new car after service

Mr. & Mrs. Shettima Kadir testifying of God’s faithfulness at their 1 year wedding anniversary at PPA
Benefits of EXCELLENCE

Dan. 1: 19–20

BY Pastor Olive Igbuzor

Introduction

Excellence is a quality of being outstanding or extremely good, distinction, superiority, brilliance, merit.

Excellence makes one to exceed the average to be greater than the usual.

Anyone with the spirit of excellence is exceptionally good at what he does. Excellence is a spirit. When you have the spirit, you will perform above average and do things decently, properly and in order.

Daniel had the spirit of Excellence

Daniel is a typical example of someone with the spirit of excellence. Daniel had the spirit of excellence and he exemplified excellence.

Dan 6: 3-Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm. (KJV)

Ten times more wisdom and understanding
Interpreted dreams
Promoted ruler over the whole province of Babylon
Not stop praying to God
Delivered from lions

Benefits of Having Spirit of Excellence

You will stand out: Your high standards will stand you out. Daniel stood out. The spirit of excellence makes the difference

Dan 1: 15-And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat. (KJV)

Dan 1: 19–20- And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king. 20 And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm. (KJV)
You will be promoted: The spirit of excellence will make you to do things that will earn you favour and promotion. Daniel was promoted.

Dan 2: 48-Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon. (KJV)

You will attract attack, but God will protect you.

Dan 2: 13 -And the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they sought Daniel and his fellows to be slain. (KJV)

Dan 6: 4-5- Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him. 5 Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God. (KJV)

You will bring glory to God

Dan 2: 47-The king answered unto Daniel, and said, Of a truth, it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret. (KJV)

Dan 3: 28-29-Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed, be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered the servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God. 29 Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort. (KJV)

Enemies of Excellence: Mediocrity, Average, Procrastination, Low self-esteem, laziness, compromise, low motivation, poor communication, pride, complacency, arrogance, boastfulness, inconsistency, wandering, fear, faithlessness, and Tradition.

Challenge: Are you born again? Do you have a spirit of excellence? Are you outstanding? Are you experiencing continuous progress? Are you facing attacks? Do you bring glory to God's name?

Conclusion: Every Christian should have the spirit of excellence that makes him or her to be outstanding or extremely good. You have the spirit of excellence and should reap the benefits of excellence including being outstanding, rapid promotion, protection from God and bringing glory to the name of God.
UPCOMING PPJ ACTIVITY

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