



COMPASSION DIGEST

A WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF ALL CHRISTIANS FELLOWSHIP MISSION

THEME OF THE YEAR

GOD OF ALL IMPOSSIBILITIES

JEREMIAH 32:27 KJV

FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES

FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH
Atmosphere of Worship
 ACFM Cathedral of Compassion

6AM

EVERY TUESDAY
Bible Studies
 Small Group Centres

6PM

EVERY THURSDAY
Help from Above
 ACFM Cathedral of Compassion

5PM

EVERY SUNDAY
Celebration Service
 ACFM Cathedral of Compassion

8AM

PASTOR IN CHARGE
Resident Pastor
 08033141485

MON - FRI

1 OUR VISION

To raise Christ-like disciples who would be agents of transformation in the world.

3 OUR MOTTO

LOVE GOD AND LOVE PEOPLE.
 Life is all about love and developing relationship with God and with other people. Learning to love is life's most important lesson. Jesus called it **THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT.**

5 WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

"Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh; Is there anything too hard for me?"
JEREMIAH 32:27 KJV

2 OUR MISSION

To bring people to Jesus and **membership** in his family, develop them to Christ-like **maturity**, equip them for their **ministry** in the Church and life **mission** in the world, in order to **magnify** God's name.

4 2023 MEMORY VERSE

"Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh; Is there anything too hard for me?"
JEREMIAH 32:27 KJV

ANNOUNCEMENT

23 TUESDAY 23RD JANUARY, 2023
Bible Study
Manual: Be the Change You Want To See
Previous Study: Be Faithful
Topic: Be Accountable
Time: 5:00pm.
Venue: ACFM Cathedral of Compassion.

26 THURSDAY 26TH JANUARY, 2023
HELP FROM ABOVE is
 - Prayer and Fasting day for the entire church.
 - A Healing, Miracle and Deliverance service
 - An outreach programme (reaching unsaved people for Christ and reaching out to other people who are hurting and are in need). Please invite your neighbours, friends, colleagues and unbelievers.
Time: 5:00pm.
Venue: ACFM Cathedral of Compassion.

28 SATURDAY 28TH JANUARY, 2023
Church Sanitation
 Love group, Sanitation Group C and the Youth Fellowship All (Tribes).

29 SUNDAY 29TH JANUARY, 2023
PROJECT OFFERING

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

'TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS

Stanza 1

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
 And to take Him at His word;
 Just to rest upon His promise,
 And to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

Chorus

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him!
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust Him more!

Stanza 2

O how sweet to trust in Jesus,
 Just to trust His cleansing blood;
 And in simple faith to plunge me
 'Neath the healing, cleansing flood!

Stanza 3

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,
 Just from sin and self to cease;
 Just from Jesus simply taking
 Life and rest, and joy and peace.

Stanza 4

I'm so glad I learned to trust Thee,
 Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
 And I know that Thou art with me,
 Wilt be with me to the end.

JANUARY

AUGUST

ACCOUNTS

TITHES & OFFERING
 ZENITH BANK
 ACFM MAITAMA
 1010516655

KINGDOM BUILDERS CLUB 1000
 GUARANTY TRUST BANK
 ACFM MAITAMA
 0215507515

TV ACCOUNT
 ACCESS BANK
 ACFM TV
 0088076679

PROJECT
 ZENITH BANK
 ACFM MAITAMA
 1012662178

GLOBAL MISSIONS - GIVERS
 FIRST BANK
 ACFM MAITAMA
 2031750510

RADIO ACCOUNT
 ZENITH BANK
 ACFM MAITAMA
 1010516655



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LIVING BY THE WORD OF GOD

DEUTRONOMY 8: 1 – 3 [TLB]

REV. [DR.] WILLIAM OKOYE

NOTES



ENRICH YOUR LIFE SPIRITUALLY with balanced and inspiring messages by **Rev. Dr. William Okoye** and other Ministers. Visit the Church's **AUDIO VISUAL DEPARTMENT** or call +2348033327841 to place your order.



FOLLOW OUR WEEKLY RADIO PROGRAMME aired on

Kapital FM 92.9 - Sundays 6:30AM

Wazobia FM 99.5 - Saturdays 2:00AM



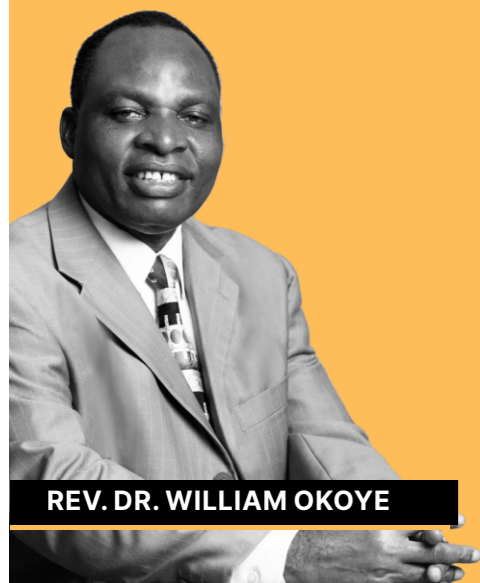
TUNE IN TO OUR WEEKLY TV BROADCAST aired on **Wazobia Max Channel 259 (DSTV)** Sundays 2:00PM



@acfmonline

LIVESTREAM

on our Online Channels Sundays 9:00AM



REV. DR. WILLIAM OKOYE

You must obey all the commandments I give you today. If you do, you will not only live, you will multiply and will go in and take over the land promised to your fathers by the Lord. Do you remember how the Lord led you through the wilderness for all those forty years, humbling you and testing you to find out how you would respond, and whether or not you would really obey him? Yes, he humbled you by letting you go hungry and then feeding you with manna, a food previously unknown to both you and your ancestors. He did it to help you realize that food isn't everything, and that real life comes by obeying every command of God. [TLB]

This is a very important scripture from the Old Testament and if you look at **Mathew 4: 1- 4**, it says: "Then Jesus was led out into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit, to be tempted there by Satan. For forty days and forty nights he ate nothing and became very hungry. Then Satan tempted him to get food by changing stones into loaves of bread. "It will prove you are the Son of God," he said. But Jesus told him, "No! For the Scriptures tell us that bread won't feed men's souls: obedience to every word of God is what we need" [TLB].

That is why I fear when I hear people running down the Old Testament but most of the texts in the New Testament are actually direct quotes from the Old Testament.

Man are not only a physical being but also a spiritual being. You have food for the physical aspect of your life and the word of God for the spiritual aspect and the spiritual realm controls the physical. So your spiritual life should be more important to you than your physical life, because if you get it right spiritually – it will manifest in the physical.

By man, we mean the human race. So just as food is important to us, so is the word of God. The spiritual takes precedence over the physical; especially in the days we are currently living in till the coming of Christ - the Bible says it will be more difficult to become a Christian as you will be compelled to compromise and live according to the standards of the world and if you are not ready to compromise, you will suffer for it. So what will help you overcome is to live by every word of God.

One interesting thing is that God claimed responsibility for some of the things that the children of Israel went through. He did that in order to teach them that bread is not everything and that they were not created to live by bread alone but "by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God" [Matthew 4: 4]. He thought them all these lessons while they were in the wilderness.

It is not everything that happens to a child of God that is from the devil! God sometimes allows us to go through challenges as a test to know what is in our hearts and how we will respond in the face of trials. There are some Christians who are Christians only when everything is going their way and all their needs are being met by God - at that time it is easy to be a

Christian but when the devil comes and you begin to experience negative things that is when you know who is a real Christian and who is not. Some of us are going through our test period now and as a Christian, if everything is going on well for you at all times, then your Christianity is questionable.

Incidentally, God said when, for forty years, you were going through the wilderness, this is what I did. When Jesus was fasting and praying in the wilderness, the devil came to persuade Him to compromise what He knows to be the will of God thereby disobeying God and yield to the desires of the flesh. But regardless of the pains and the challenges in the wilderness, Jesus remembered that the wilderness experience is a time of proving to know what is in your heart and whether you will obey God or not.

Sometimes ago I preached a message titled, "**Profiting From Trials**" which in summary said that life in this world is not meant to be easy because we are living in a fallen world as a result of Adam's disobedience to God. Although Christ had come to redeem us from this fallen world, we have not transited into the fullness of our liberty. We are enjoying some degree of the benefits of redemption but the climax is when we meet Him face to face in heaven then we would be freed from all pains, sicknesses, troubles etc. But while we are in this world until the coming of Jesus Christ, there're bound to be trials and temptations. And so if you experience any of these things this year or in the coming years, don't think that God has forsaken you! Once you are living right according to the God's word, know that it is the time to prove that you truly love God and not serving Him for what you will get as benefits. If God have not done any other thing for you, but had sent His son to die on the cross of Calvary in order for us to be saved that is more important than anything else. This is enough to live the rest of your life praising Him, worshipping and obeying Him in totality.

The book of **James 1: 1 – 4** says, "From: James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ. To: Jewish Christians scattered everywhere. Greetings! Dear brothers, is your life full of difficulties and temptations? Then be happy, for when the way is rough, your patience has a chance to grow... So let it grow... For when your patience is finally in full bloom, then you will be ready for anything, strong in character, full and complete". [TLB]. Also in **Romans 5: 3**: "We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they are good for us—they help us learn to be patient. And patience develops strength of character in us and helps us trust God more each time we use it until finally our hope and faith are strong and steady. Then, when that happens, we are able to hold our heads high no matter what happens and know that all is well, for we know how dearly God loves us... because God has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love" [TLB]

In the light of some of the teachings from our pulpits today, once things are not going your way, then it must be the devil and you will quickly bind it! Some will even say you are no more a Christian. **Romans 8: 35 –**

38 says, "Who then can ever keep Christ's love from us? When we have trouble or calamity, when we are hunted down or destroyed, is it because he doesn't love us anymore? And if we are hungry or penniless or in danger or threatened with death, has God deserted us? No, for the Scriptures tell us that for his sake we must be ready to face death at every moment of the day... but despite all this, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ who loved us enough to die for us. For I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from his love..." [TLB].

We are the ones who can separate from God if we so desire. If you run away from God, your problems will compound but if you allow the problems to drive you closer to God that is where answers will come from. In this challenging year, don't be moved by what you see, feel and hear. Always ask yourself what does the word of God say about my present situation? What does the Bible say, how do I respond? What should be my attitude? And if you respond according to the

Your spiritual life should be more important to you than your physical life, because if you get it right spiritually – it will manifest in the physical.

Bible, you are living by every word of God and He will never let you down. Sometimes God allows challenges in order to strengthen and prepare us for the great things He is about to do in our lives. Always remember Job's experience and how the devil recounted all the things that God did for him, as the reason Job loves and serves Him. While God said He knows Job better, He allowed Satan to take away everything Job has but not his life! And God said you would see that he would still serve me! Even when Job's wife suggested that he should curse God and die in the face of all the challenges, Job refused and God was pleased and the devil was put to shame. Today, if it were some of us we would have thrown in the towel. Biblical Christianity entails that we must be ready for any challenges and make up our minds that regardless of what the enemy throws at us – we will remain strong and faithful in the direction God wants us to go, living according to His word and God will vindicate us.

EXAMPLES OF WHAT IT MEANS TO LIVE BY EVERY WORD OF GOD

"When Jesus arrived in Capernaum, a Roman army captain came and pled with him to come to his home and heal his servant boy who was in bed paralyzed and

racked with pain. "Yes," Jesus said, "I will come and heal him." Then the officer said, "Sir, I am not worthy to have you in my home; and it isn't necessary for you to come. If you will only stand here and say, 'Be healed,' my servant will get well! I know, because I am under the authority of my superior officers and I have authority over my soldiers... And I know you have authority to tell his sickness to go—and it will go!" Jesus stood there amazed! Turning to the crowd he said, "I haven't seen faith like this in all the land of Israel! And I tell you this, that many Gentiles like this Roman officer, shall come from all over the world and sit down in the Kingdom of Heaven with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. And many an Israelite—those for whom the Kingdom was prepared—shall be cast into outer darkness, into the place of weeping and torment." Then Jesus said to the Roman officer, "Go on home. What you have believed has happened!" And the boy was healed that same hour! [TLB]

1. Believing the word;

The Centurion believed in the power of the spoken word of God and so he said to Jesus to speak a word and by faith his servant was healed.

2. Responding to the word of God;

Luke: 17: 11-14. The ten lepers did something amazing, when they met with Jesus entreating Him to heal them of their leprosy, He [Jesus] instead of praying for them as usual, directed them to go and show themselves to the priest.

They responded and they were healed and made whole. If the word of God says you are healed; respond to it accordingly by acting on the word and your miracle will take place. This year we have to believe God to strengthen our faith so that regardless of what we face we remain strong in the faith and in the word of God.

3. Committing our plans to God;

Mathew 14: 22- 33. Peter saw Jesus walking on water and he spoke to Jesus saying, "If you be the one, tell me to come? In other words, since Jesus is the one asking him to come he is assured that he is safe because he has committed the Master into it; thus, when he began to sink, he called out on Jesus to help him and Jesus did.

This shows that when you commit your plans to God, you will be rest assured that your plans are safe in His hands.

The word of God can never disappoint. Every other thing is subject to change but the word of God cannot change. Whatever it is we are going through as individuals, families, and church or as a nation, the God of all impossibilities will see us through.

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