A teaching delivered by Bro Matthew Ayomitide, Mevoyon during the first Evangelism workshop of TACSFON OOU which was held on Saturday 17th December, 2022 at the Fellowship Auditorium by exactly 10am

Acknowledgement

I want to sincerely appreciate the living God for the grace and mercy that I received and also for the light and understanding that He is raining on the church this season.

I as well extend my sincere appreciation to all the 2021/2022 spiritual year executive body led by **Brother Jokodola Michael Oluwasegun** for aligning and submitting themselves under the mighty power of God for revelation and direction for the fellowship and the body of Christ as well.

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To the entire body of Christ, I sincerely appreciate all the Love, support (in kind and gesture) and as well as their endurance throughout this demanding period. We are so grateful, and it's our prayer that God Almighty sustain everyone of us on the path till we fully lay hold on the very Life of God, the Eternal Life. (Amen)

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INTRODUCTION

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in Heavenly places in Christ (Eph.1:3).

The Lord God in His mercy has look down on our generation this season with a great burden and a great call for revival and re-awakening of the entire body of Christ on the aspect that many christians has misunderstood due to our falling nature. This write up addresses the misconception and misunderstanding of many christians about Evangelism and as well provide adequate solution to all these misconceptions.

WHAT IS EVANGELISM?

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:19-20, NIV).

Evangelism is not only about distributing gospel tracts and preaching on the streets but it is a **process** of teaching, learning, making disciples and embodiment of the commandments of God. Our traditional understanding of what Evangelism is has made us less productive or even unproductive at all when it comes to the issue of Evangelism.

Evangelism is a **process** that brings a person to a decision to trust in Jesus Christ, but evangelism is not just a decision. In our walk with God, we become a part of the process of preparing, sowing, watering, or even reaping, but we can't hurry the process. We must learn to care about people just as the Lord did. Then, when the right time comes, as led by the Spirit, begin to tell them about the person and work of the Saviour. We must remember that, in the final analysis, God uses the

Word and the transformed life, but it is the Spirit of God alone who can break through the barriers of the blindness and hardness of the human heart to bring a person to faith in Christ. (John 4:35-42.)

MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT EVANGELISM

Our commission is to explain the Gospel to the lost in all the nations that they might inherit eternal life, and as well instruct (disciple) those who respond in faith to the work of Christ on the Cross that they, through faith and obedience, might radiate the glory of Christ throughout

eternity (Mat. 28:19-20). We have been called to sow Truth so that a remnant from every nation might know Christ. Furthermore, our goal stretches beyond the lifetime of a couple of generations into the infinity of time described in the Scriptures as "the ages to come." So, let me share some of the misconception or misrepresentation of what Evangelism is with you by the help of some Bible reference.

• The Gospel of Christ is all about Deliverance from sickness

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all; After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities (Isa.53:5-6;11)

The power of the Cross can (and does) heal many kinds of brokenness. But in this life, it only guarantees one deliverance: the deliverance from sin's power and eternal penalty.

• The Gospel will restore all broken relationships with our family members.

"Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn "a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, a man's enemies will be the members of his own household." (MAT. 10:34-36).

• The Gospel will restore broken marriages

To the rest I say this (I, not the Lord): If any brother has a wife who is not a believer and she is willing to live with him, he must not divorce her. And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him.; But if the unbeliever leaves, let it be so. The brother or the sister is not bound in such circumstances; God has called us to live in peace (1Cor.12-13;15)

Yes, the power of the Cross can heal, and has healed, many broken marriages. But for one to believe on Christ so that his failing marriage will be restored should not be the message of evangelism. That might happen; but it is not guaranteed.

• The Gospel is for healing serious physical illness

"He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; "by his wounds you have been healed." (1Pet.2:24)

Yes, Jesus Christ has healed many serious physical illnesses. It is also true that many prayer warriors – men and women of great faith – have died of cancer. For one to believe on Christ so that his body is restored to health should not be the message of the evangelist. That might happen; but it might not.

• Evangelism is the assurance of a righteous country.

It is probably safe to say that those born of the Holy Spirit want the legislation of our country to be a reflection of the moral will of God, because a society that is moral in behavior will promote peace, order, prosperity, and freedom of thought and movement. And it certainly allows for the spread of the kingdom of God and the exaltation of His Name. However, we must also know that a RIGHTEOUS LEGISLATION WILL ONLY PRODUCES MORAL BEHAVIOR. Have you ever

examined the Old Testament, especially the nation of Israel. The spiritual and moral failures of the nation Israel is of the greatest rate except for a few bright spots under the godly leadership of certain judges and kings. Israel was well known as an idolatrous nation. And idolatry led her into gross immorality. Yet, the legislation of this nation was the Mosaic Law and it was "written by the finger of God.

WHY MUST WE NOW EVANGELIZE?

For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

How, then, can they call on the One they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the One of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? (Romans 10:13-14, NIV).

Evangelism is a necessary tool and instrument of God for the salvation of man's spirit and soul (Rom.1:16). When we engage in the business of Evangelism, we are making the intent and purpose of God to Man faster because we are introducing Man's original **DESTINY** to man. According to the revelation of the word of righteousness, we are made to understand that man is primarily destined to embody the very life of God which is eternal life (Titus1:2, Jh.3:15). Due to the fact that man's soul has journeyed far away from the presence of God, man has misplaced purpose and Satan has given man a purpose and destiny that will fade away with time but Evangelism is a call and reminder to bring this knowledge to man.

God does not want man to remain outside His purpose for man that is why he sent Jesus to draw the pattern and give man the right guide for living(Luke 19:10).

WHY MUST WE EVANGELIZE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING AND REVELATION OF GOD'S PURPOSE FOR MAN

Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ (Romans 8:5-9).

There is a realm in the Christian journey called **the realm of flesh**, Paul said to the church in Corinth that "Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly, mere infants in Christ" (1Cor. 3:1). This means that the fact that the spirit of a man has been regenerated and has been added to the church does not mean that the person has the understanding and revelation of God yet. He needs to journey and grow in the spirit for him to effectively carry out the business of Evangelism.

Anyone who does not have the revelation of the intent of God can not give it out to others because they lack capacity to effectively and efficiently communicate the vision and the burden in the heart of God. We need revelation through the Holy Spirit in order to do the will of the father. A man cannot give what he did not have, a man cannot as well share the vision he did not receive.

A lot of zealous christians who happens to be in the realms of flesh in the spirit realms are just like a three years old baby, who sees her mother sweeping in other to make the room clean, because of the zeal in the baby, he started crying heavily for the broom that he wants to sweep, the mother gave him broom to sweep in other to stop him from crying but unfortunately,

he uses the broom to scatter the dirt that the mother has painfully gathered to be disposed back on the ground that has be cleaned. This is so because at that stage of the boy's life, he lacked the capacity to sweep and as a result he committed errors. So also is everyone that does not have the revelation and understanding of the Purpose of God for man in the Evangelism business.

HOW DO WE THEN EVANGELIZE?

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8, NIV).

The one and only way to evangelize is by the power of the Holy Spirit because the only criteria to be a witness is after we have received the power of the Holy Spirit. The work of Evangelism can only be done through absolute obedience to the leading of the spirit and intentional commitment to one's spiritual growth.

However, God has given different gifts such as the nine gifts of Spirit and the five fold ministry gifts for accomplishment of this assignment (1Cor. 12:8-12)

CONCLUSION

Righteousness comes from God through Faith in Jesus Christ, the righteous one. So, we need to spend every opportunity and hours of our time searching, dipping, seeking and sharing the Gospel which is the sound doctrine of Christ with everyone.

Thank you for enduring and following us to this very end. May the good God help us to do that which is right. (Amen)

Maranatha!