



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NIGERIA
MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

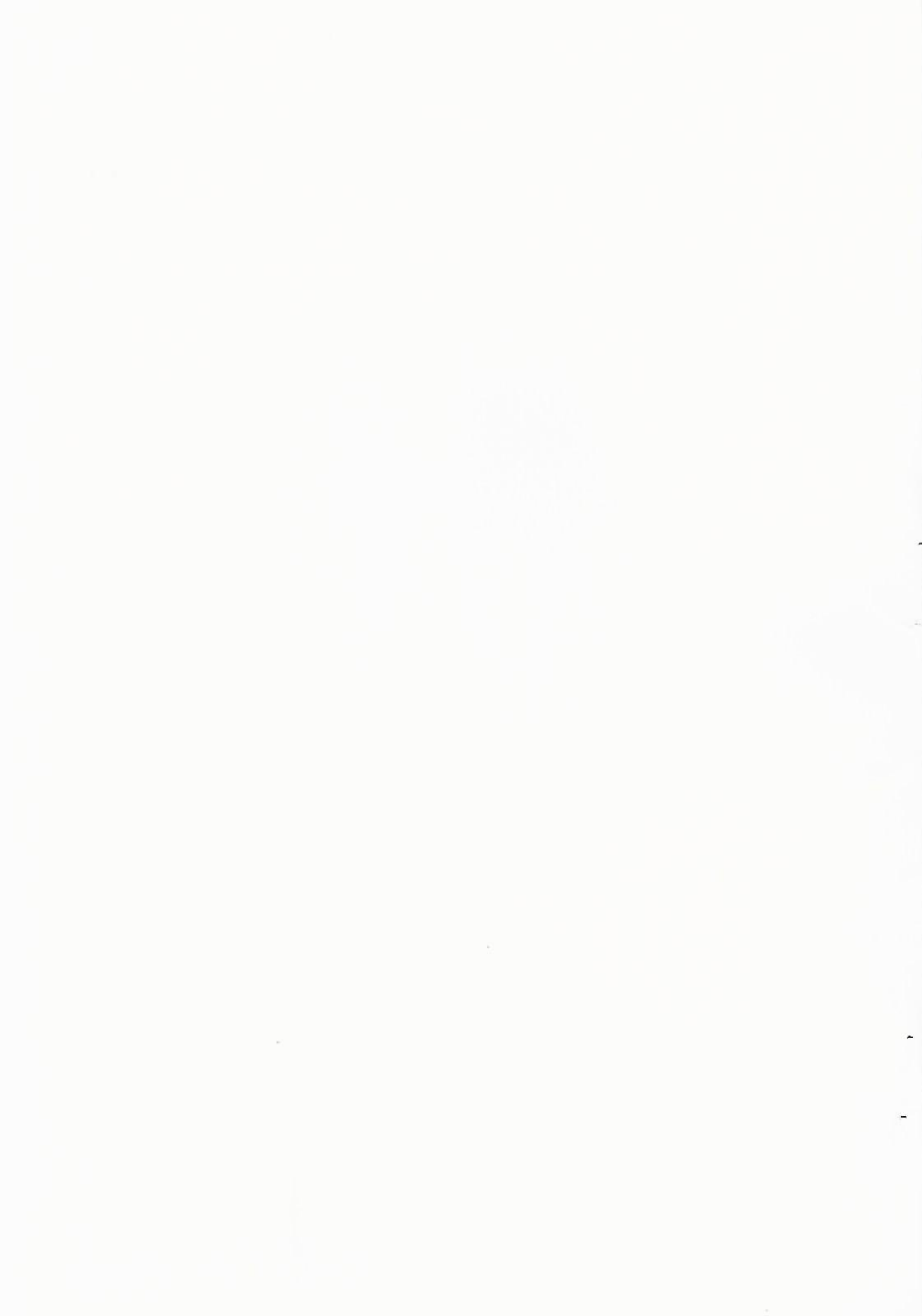
Bible Study

G U I D E




**MEN OF GOD
ARISE AND SHINE**

Isaiah 60:1



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NIGERIA
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The logo features the year '2020' in a stylized blue font. The first zero contains a globe, and the second zero contains a cross. To the right of the year, the words 'Bible Study' are written in a large, blue, cursive font, and 'GUIDE' is written in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font below it.

Bible Study
G U I D E

G.A. Theme
ARISE AND SHINE
(Isaiah 60:1)

MCA Sub-Theme
MEN OF GOD ARISE AND SHINE
(Isaiah 60:1)

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**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NIGERIA
MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
CENTRAL WORKING COMMITTEE**



RESERVED DATES FOR 2020

S/N	PROGRAM	HOST/ VENUE	DATE	REMARK
1	Presbytery / Synod MCA Meeting	Presbytery	February / March 2020	Delegates
2	Central Working Committee (CWC) Meeting	East Synod	20-22 March 2020	Delegates
3	Father's Week	All Parishes	15 - 21 June 2020	All Men
4	Central Working Committee (CWC)	East Central Synod	17 - 19 July 2020	Delegates
5	Presbytery / Synod	Presbytery	July / August 2020	Delegates
6	Central Working Committee (CWC) Meeting	Mid-East Synod	16-18 October 2020	Delegates
7	Presbytery / Synod MCA Meeting	Presbytery	November 2020	Delegates

NOTES:

Delegates to these meetings are please asked to prepare ahead of time and avoid absenteeism.

Host Presbyteries should make adequate arrangements for venue and communicate same to other Presbyteries on time for adequate preparations and attendance.

Clashes of venues and dates with other events should be avoided as much as possible.

Adequate preparations should be made, at all levels, well ahead of time for the Father's Week.

MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION ANTHEM (RCH 344)

1. Rise up, O men of God
Have done with lesser things
Give heart and soul and mind and strength
To serve the King of Kings
2. Rise up, O men of God
His kingdom tarries long
Bring in the day of brother-hood
And end the night of wrong
3. Rise up O men of God
The Church for you doth wait
Her strength unequal to her task
Rise up and make her great
4. Lift high the cross of Christ
Tread where his feet have trod
As brothers of the son of men
Rise up, O men of God!

THE MCA PLEDGE

I promise by the help of God that
I will refrain from committing any known sin
I will live in obedience to God's will
I will spend time each day in private prayers
I will be a diligent student of God's word
I will confess Christ publicly
I will give liberally as God prospers me
I will do something definite for the Lord Jesus Christ
So help me God – Amen



FUNCTIONS OF THE MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

1. To promote and co-ordinate men's work in the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria
2. To encourage opportunities for Christian fellowship-
3. To organize such activities as will promote social and Christian progress within the Church
4. To publish an annual Men's Bible Study Guide

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE MCA

1. To promote fellowship and Bible study
2. To promote and foster Christian principles with their membership
3. To encourage MCA members to give spiritual, moral and financial support to the Presbyterian Church of Nigeria
4. To promote co-operation with other organization with the Presbyterian Churches
5. To promote co-operation with Men's Association of other Christian Churches
6. To promote such activities as will aid the spiritual progress of MCA and The Presbyterian Church of Nigeria

MCA'S SLOGAN: O Men of God, Arise and Shine

INTRODUCTION

The theme of The Presbyterian Church of Nigeria (PCN) for the year 2020, **ARISE AND SHINE**, perfectly agrees with the Church's Men's Christian Association (MCA) slogan "Men of God, Arise and Shine".

This theme which comes from the book of Isaiah Chapter 60 verse 1, depicts the state of depravity of mankind. The life of sin is a life engulfed by darkness; totally alienated from the light which God's salvation provides. Those who live in sin dwell in darkness (Isaiah 9:2). And they that partake in the unfruitful works of darkness (Eph. 5:11). The people are thus commanded to arise from darkness and embrace the light (Jesus) - John 1:1-5, John 8:12), whom God has sent to deliver humanity from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of his dear son-Jesus Christ, the light.

The bible study uses the life of Apostle Paul to exemplify the life that has been transformed from darkness into light. Paul had a very chequed background during the Roman reign. He passionately persecuted and harassed Christians and the Church "... Breathing out threatening and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord ..." (Acts 9:1). He took excessive pleasure in violently hunting the Church. And in one of those escapades, the hunter was hunted by the light of God's Salvation. He was therefore "arrested" by God and was later branded for Christ and ended up as one of the greatest and most prominent apostle and missionary in Church history.



The aim of this study is to challenge men to arise from a life of sin (darkness) and accept Jesus Christ (the light of the world) as their personal Lord and Saviour. The topics treated in this booklet are meant to groom men from the inception to be mature Christians; thoroughly prepared for a crown of righteousness in heaven (11Tim. 4:8)

Rt. Rev. S. E. Ole JP
Men's Desk Coordinator

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STUDY ONE

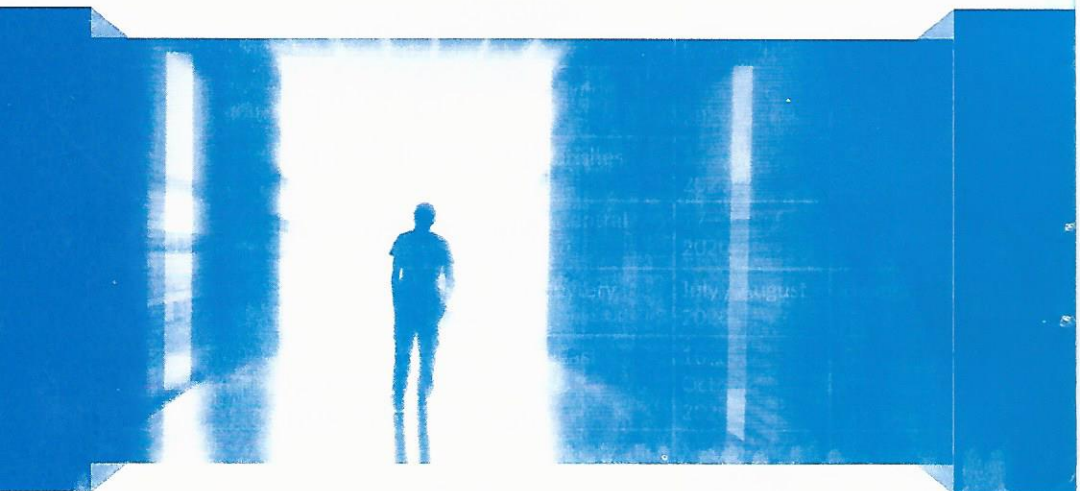
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TOPIC : ARISE FROM DARKNESS

TEXT : ACTS 9:1-9

MEMORY VERSE : COLOSSIANS 1:13

"Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son".



INTRODUCTION

Figuratively darkness is used in the Scripture to epitomize a life of sin, spiritual decadence and human depravity. It represents the Adamic nature of the fallen state of man. It also depicts a life alienated from and most times antagonistic or at war with God. In this study, the spiritual meaning of darkness will be known and how mankind can arise out of it.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What is the biblical meaning of darkness? Eccl. 5:17, Is. 8:22; Gal. 5:19.
2. Examine the life style of those living in darkness (Rom. 13:12-13; John 12:35; 1John 2:8-11; 1John 3:15)
3. What does God command those living in darkness to do? (John 8:12; 2Cor. 6: 14; 17-18). The Bible is very clear on this. It commands those living in darkness to come out of it and embrace the light of the world.
4. In your own words explain the phrase, "Arise and Shine".

CONCLUSION

It will serve you no good that all the years you have been in the Church you still live or walk in darkness! Take a great step of faith by moving from darkness (death) to light (eternal life).

STUDY TWO

TOPIC : CONVERSION OR NEW BIRTH

TEXT : ACTS 9:3-18

MEMORY VERSE : ACTS 9:3

“And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus; and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven”.



INTRODUCTION

Conversion is a spiritual process of turning or changing from darkness to light or from sin to Godliness. In other words, it could be seen as regeneration or new birth. It means to be made a new creature which is carried out exclusively by the Holy Spirit of God (John 3:5). It is to be born again of the

water and the spirit of God (John 3:5). It is the gateway to heaven. It is essentially inescapable as one move from darkness to light.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What is the meaning of conversion or new birth? (John 1:12; John 3:3-5; 2 Cor. 5:17; Eph.4:22-24).
2. Discuss the means or agents of conversion? (Joshua 1:8; Rom. 10:17; 1 Peter 1:23)
3. Examine the life of a converted person - 1John 2:29; 1John 3:9; Luke 10:27; 1John 4:7.
4. What are the practical results of conversion? (John 4:14; John 7:38; Eph. 4:24)

CONCLUSION

Conversion is a definite experience on a definite person, at a definite time and at a definite place. Every child of God must have two birthdays - a physical birthday and a spiritual birthday. Are you converted? Are you born again? Are you saved? Or are you still living in darkness?

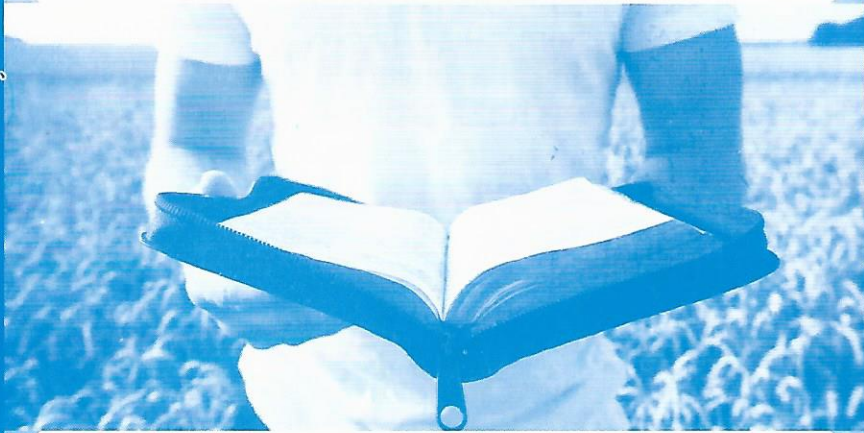
STUDY **THREE**

TOPIC : MINISTERING THE WORD

TEXT : ACTS 9:20-32

MEMORY VERSE : ROMANS 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto Salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jews first, and also to the Greek



INTRODUCTION

On that day of Saul's encounter with the LORD, he was transformed, endowed and equipped by the Holy Spirit that he immediately began his commission or mandate of preaching the gospel in the Damascus synagogues declaring that "Jesus was the son of God" with all his might, courage and boldness not minding the threat to his life by the Jews (Acts 9:23-24).

There were no missing opportunities, delay, procrastination, compromise or moment of idleness to the Great Commission. He was obedient and eager to carry out the Master's instruction. From a persecutor to a preacher and from a destroyer of souls to a carrier of the Gospel message.

In this study, we will examine the life of a regenerated individual; the urgency and imperativeness of ministering the word of God in a wicked and depraved society like ours.

STUDY QUESTIONS

- 1(a) Explain the action of Saul towards his new mandate. (1Sam 10:9-12; Acts 9:20; 28-29; 13:1-2; 17:1-2; Rom 1:16)
- (b) Do we have similar zeal and willingness among today's Christian men?
- (c) Share your personal experience and action in the light of your regenerated life.
- 2(a) What were the challenges encountered by Saul as he ministered the word? (Jeremiah 1:17-19; Jeremiah 11:18-19; Acts 9:23-26; 14:5-7; 9:22-29)
- (b) What was his reaction to these?
- (c) Do believers face similar challenges today? Illustrate your answer with practical examples.
3. Critically examine the attitude and commitment of the PCN Men's Christian Association to the Great Commission (Matt 28:19-20; Mk 16:15-16; 2Tim 4:2; Jonah 1:1-2; 3:1).



CONCLUSION

The mandate to preach the gospel is for all MCA members and all believers. We are doomed if we fail to preach this gospel (1Cor 9:16). Preaching the Good news of Jesus Christ is a charge that has been given to all of us as men, both to the Jews and Gentiles; beginning from our homes, offices, business environments, etc. I encourage all of us to wake from our slumber and shine as we do the needful. (Eph 5:14b).

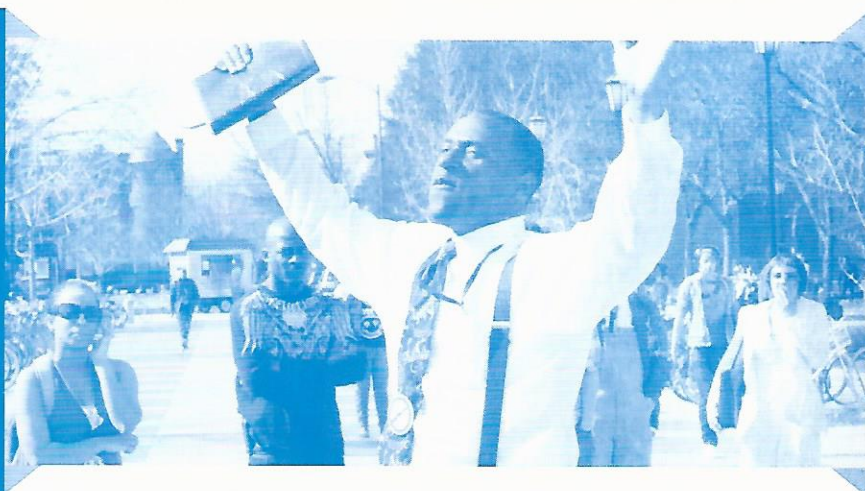
STUDY FOUR

TOPIC : ARISE AND EVANGELIZE

TEXT : ACTS 13:4-52

MEMORY VERSE : ROMANS 10:15B

*How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!
(Romans 10:15) KJV*



INTRODUCTION

Acts 13 is the beginning of Saul's great work as a missionary. The Church members at Antioch were strong in faith and keen to spreading the Good news. Acting under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Lord sent out Saul and Barabbas as first missionaries with John Mark as their assistant. Their journey spanned through Antioch, Cyprus, Antioch in Pisidia and Iconium.

These missionary activities took place between 46 and 47 AD. The purpose of this study is to call us to leave our comfort zones and move out with the gospel of our Lord, for the scripture says woe to them that are at ease in Zion (Amos 6:1a)

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Define the words "Mission" and "Evangelism" in your own understanding.
 Note: Evangelism is the zealous proclamation of the Good news about Jesus Christ, urging men and women to repent of their sins and put their trust in Him as their only Saviour and to make Him the Lord of their lives. It could also mean a person or any group of people sent out (home or abroad) for a specific purpose. It has to do with a particular work for which one is sent to accomplish.
- 2(a) Discuss the place of ordination in evangelism. (Number 11:25; 1 Samuel 10:1; 16:13, Mark 16:17-18; 1 Timothy 4:14).
- 2(b) Do we still require ordination for effective evangelism and mission today? Discuss (Zech 4:6)
- 3(a) why did God choose Barnabas to be Saul's companion in the missionary work? (Act 9:26-28; Prov 27:14)
- 3(b) Discuss the purpose of team work in mission and evangelism. (Eccl 4:9-12; Prov. 27:14; Matt 10:1; Luke 10:1)
4. Read Acts 13:14-43. Does Biblical and Church (PCN) history have any significant role to play in our evangelism and mission work today? (Joshua 24:21-22; Acts 2:37, 22:1-21).

5. Read Acts 13:51 carefully. How will you justify the actions of Barnabas and Saul? (Matt 10:14; Mark 6:11; Luke 10:10-11)

CONCLUSION

But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how would anyone tell them without being sent? (Rom 10:14-15). So, rise up for evangelism Oh men of God and do mission work.

STUDY FIVE

5

TOPIC : ARISE AND EVANGELISH II
TEXT : ACTS 14:1 -28
MEMORY VERSE : I CORINTHIANS 9:16

For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of, for necessity is laid upon me, yea woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!



INTRODUCTION

The mandate from God to preach the gospel message is not reserved for a selected few like pastors, evangelist, teachers, prophets, apostles or members of evangelism ministry. It is given to every regenerated child of God (Matt 28:18-20; Mark 16:15); those born of the spirit and of water (John 3:5). Paul the apostle obeyed the Great Commission all through his life after his conversion (Acts 9:20). In the same manner, Christians

especially men of the PCN ought to arise and shine by preaching the gospel to the unsaved world.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Paul and his team did not concentrate their evangelism on crusade alone but once in a while retreated to the synagogues. How relevant was this to their missionary assignment? (Acts 19:20; 13:14; John 1:40-41, Acts 4:3).
 - (a) What was the implication of the synagogue to their ministry?
 - (b) What can today's Christians learn about the Church? (Heb 10:25; 1Tim 3:15; Rom 8:26-27)

- NOTE: The Holy Spirit makes us members of the Church upon receiving salvation
- The Church is a place of refuge and security (1Tim 3:15).
 - It is a place to hear the voice of truth and encouragement.
 - It is a place you have people praying for you just as the Holy Ghost prays and intercedes for us (Rom 8: 26-27)
 - It is where you receive your blessings
 - It is a strong support system for one's spiritual growth and effectiveness in the kingdom mission and race.
 - It is the gathering of sanctified and called out people.

2. In which other ways can we evangelize the gospel? (Psalm 118:17b, Acts 9: 32; 15:36; John 1:40-41)

NOTE: We can evangelize through visitation, person to person, personal lifestyle, open air crusade, mass media, fund to support the work of evangelism, etc.

3. Why did Paul restrain the people of Lystra from worshipping them? (Dan 4:31-33; Isa 42:8; 48:11).
- (b) Compare this with the attitude of our contemporary preachers.
4. What should be our reaction in the face of opposition and persecution? Discuss Acts 14:15; 4:19; 16:25; James 1:2; Phil 4:4).

CONCLUSION

Soul winning is God's heart beat. He that wins a soul is wise (Prov 11:30). Men of the PCN should not allow this divine mandate to die in their hands. Don't disappoint God. Don't fail your generation. May God depend on us as we go forth to our different places of work and in our mission and evangelism campaign.

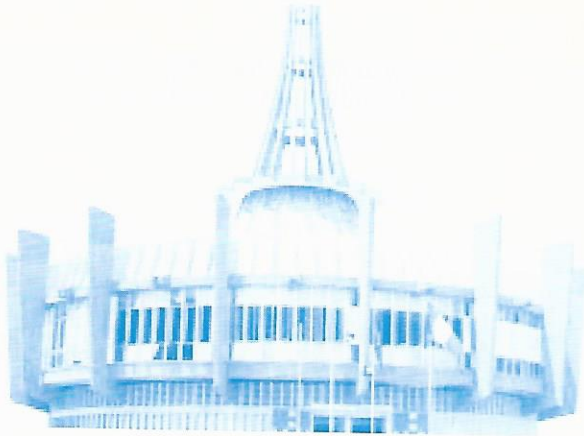
STUDY SIX

TOPIC : MISSION AND CHURCH PLANTING

TEXT : ACTS 16:1-13

MEMORY VERSE : ACTS 16:5

And so were the churches established in faith, and increased in number daily



INTRODUCTION

Paul's mission endeavors portrayed him a serious minded and diligent evangelist who was committed to doing exploits for his master. He was an itinerant preacher who went on three missionary expeditions traveling the length and breadth of Asia Minor planting Churches; contributing tremendously to the growth and expansion of the early Christian Church.



The aim of this study is to challenge us to arise to the gospel mandate, discovering new grounds and support the work of mission of the PCN both in Nigeria and beyond.

STUDY QUESTIONS

- 1(a) Who is a missionary?
NOTE: He is a person sent usually to another country or to a different ethnic group of his own country, to teach and spread his faith or help people physically.
- (b) Using the person of Paul x-ray the qualities of a missionary. (Josh 1:9, Jeremiah 4:3; Hosea 10:12; 1Cor 3:6)

NOTE:

- Must be a born again and filled with the spirit of God
- Must be bold and courage (fearless)
- He takes risk for good
- Must be a model preacher
- Must break or discover new grounds
- He endures hardship
- Bear the burden of others

- 2(a) What do you understand by the phrase “Church Planting”? (Acts 16:10; 1Cor 3:16)
- (b) What is the relationship between mission and Church planting?

3. What are major activities involve in mission and Church planting? (Mark 16:15-20; Acts 14:1-11; 9:10-20)
4. Discuss the obstacles to effective mission and Church planning in the PCN
5. What are the results of a robust and efficient missionary work in any Christian organization (Acts 4:4; 5:14)

CONCLUSION

God wants the Church to be involved in effective missionary and Church planting ministry. The Christianity we are enjoying today is the effects of the missionaries who left their homes to the shore of Africa (Nigeria) to plant Churches including the PCN. So men of God of the PCN must arise to mission and Church planting. If we can't go to the fields, our monies, prayers, gifts, etc can go for us. Don't sit on the fence. God wants to depend on you.



STUDY SEVEN

TOPIC : ARISE AND GIVE
 TEXT : 2 CORINTHIANS 8:1-15; 9:1-14
 MEMORY VERSE : 2 CORINTHIANS 9:6

But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly, and he that soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully



INTRODUCTION

Giving is an obligation to every believer. God is the chief and best giver. He demonstrated his love by giving his only son (John 3:16). The kingdom work cannot flourish if we fail to give. Unfortunately many Presbyterians are deficient in this area of ministry either because we shy away from teaching it or we are unyielding to the word of God. Our poor giving lifestyles have negatively affected the growth and the development of our Church in diverse ways.

Hence, for Paul to succeed in his missionary work among the Gentiles, the Church leaders in Jerusalem asked him to raise some money from the Churches he founded. Paul's frequent referral of the collection of money for the Jerusalem church makes it important. 2Cor 8–9:15, place Christian giving as a very important aspect of Christian ministry. This study is aimed at calling men of the PCN to rise and enhance their giving for the furtherance of God's work God.

STUDY QUESTIONS

- 1 (a) What is Christian giving?
- (b) What is the purpose of giving according to these passages? (Exodus 36; 2Cor 9:12-14; 1Kings 17:13-15; Phi 4:15-18)

NOTE: It is aimed at building the Church and supporting God's work

- To encourage gospel preachers
 - To encourage the poor
 - To express thanksgiving and love
 - To encourage the fellowship of prayer and service.
 - It is a demonstration of obedience to God
2. What should be the yardstick or parameter for Christian giving? (Deut 16:17; 35:20-29; 2Sam 24:24; Prov. 11:25; 2Cor 6:6-7)

NOTE:

- Give as you are blessed
 - Give according to your ability
 - Give your best
 - Give liberally & cheerfully, etc.
3. Enumerate some obstacles to Christian giving? (Hosea 4:6; Joshua 7:1; 2Cor 8:2, James 1:6).
 4. Mention the benefits of Christian giving from the following passages (1Kings 17:16-17; Eccl 11:1; Luke 6:38; Acts 2:43-47).

CONCLUSION

While the earth remains, seed and harvest time, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night shall never cease (Gen 8:22). He that gathered much had nothing over, and he that gathered little had no lack. Remember a liberal soul shall always be made fat (Prov. 11:25). There are enormous things you can give e.g. encouragement, time, service, visit, money, prayers, etc. Be positive to this and be blessed.

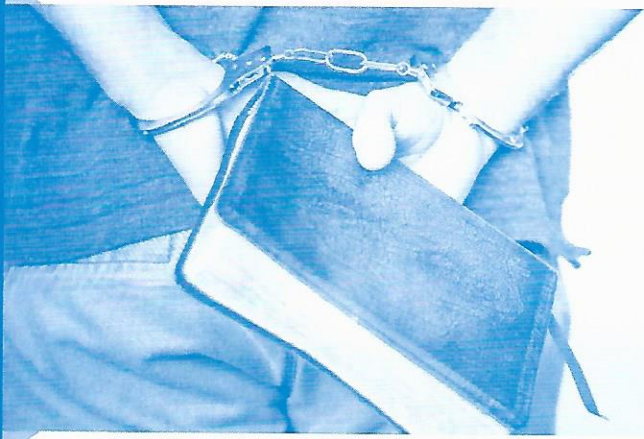
STUDY EIGHT

TOPIC : SUFFERING AND PERSECUTION AS
INTEGRAL PART OF ARISE AND SHINE

TEXT : ACTS 16:20-40;II CORINTHIANS 11:20-33

MEMORY VERSE : (II CORINTHIANS 12:10)

“Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong”.



INTRODUCTION

The Bible's command to Christian to arise and shine is not a bed of roses. There are challenges, problems, sufferings, hardships, difficulties, trials



and temptations on the way. Paul had a substantial dose of them in the course of his missionary enterprise. His experiences, as we shall see in this study, are to encourage us as Christians not to give up in the midst of persecution.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Examine the experiences of Saint Paul in the light of Acts 16:20-40; 2 Corinthians 11:20-33.
2. Why should Christian suffer persecution? (2 Timothy 2:10-12; 2 Corinthians 4:1, 1 Peter 2:21). Suffering and persecution are parts and parcel of a Christian life. Remember, no Cross; No crown.
3. What are those things the Christian should rely on when he passes through persecution? (Matt 5:10-12; 1 Corinthians 10:13; 2 Corinthians 12:9; James 1:2-4).
4. Discuss the purposes of suffering (Hebrews 12:8; 2 Timothy 3:12; Hebrews 12:10-11).

CONCLUSION

Suffering and persecution are good for Christians because there are God's choicest fertilizers to increase the final harvest.

STUDY NINE

TOPIC : EXERCISING DIVINE AUTHORITY

TEXT : ACT 16:16-19; 19:10-20; 20:7-12

MEMORY VERSE : I CORINTHIANS 2:4

And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.



INTRODUCTION

Paul demonstrated and made use of divine authority with so much relish. As the disciples were sent out, the Lord gave them so much power (Luke 10:19; Mark 16:15-18). He did this so that his children would showcase the efficacy of his power as

evidence that greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world (1 John 4:4).

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Examine the sources of divine authority (Daniel 11:32; Isaiah 10:27; Luke 10:19; Mark 16:15-18;).
2. What is divine authority and how should it be exercised? (Daniel 11:32; Matthew 10:5-9; Acts 16:16-18; 19:11-12;).
3. What are the proofs of divine authority (Mark 16:15-18; Acts 3:6-8; 9:31-40).
- 4 (a) Discuss the wrong use of divine authority (Acts 19:4- 19; 1John 4:1; Acts 8:18-19).
(b) Comment on the right application of divine authority in the face of the contemporary challenge of fake miracles (1 John 4:1).

CONCLUSION

To make sufficient impact in the world in these last days, Christians should ask the Lord to endure them with power and authority to do exploit only to his glory.

STUDY TEN

10

TOPIC : THE ESSENTIALITY OF PRAYER

TEXT : ACTS 16:25-34

MEMORY VERSE : ACTS 16:25

And at midnight Paul and Barnabas prayed, and sang praises unto God and the prisoners heard them.



INTRODUCTION

P rayer that is, talking to or communicating with God is essential to a successful and victorious Christian life. Prayer is vital to the Christian as food is to life. Paul out-prayed almost all the apostles in the bible and almost all the saints in Church history. The prayerless Christian is a powerless Christian. If the Church must grow, such that the gates of hell will not prevail against

her, all the men must pray and not lose heart (Matthew 16:18, Luke 18:1). This study is aimed at challenging us to pray. Therefore ye men of God rise and pray.

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What are the five biblical commands connected to prayer? (Luke 21:36; Mark 13:35-37; Matthew 26:41; Luke 6:28). We are commanded to watch and pray always, pray for those in authority and pray for our enemies.
2. How often should the Christians pray? (Luke 18:1; 1Thessalonians 5:17; Psalms 55:16-17; Dan 6:10).

NOTE

- The bible exhorts Christians to pray without ceasing,
 - Pray Until Something Happens (PUSH)
 - Pray in the morning, afternoon, evening, all night and before each meal.
 - Remember to read your Bible and pray every day.
3. What should the Christians pray for according to (1 Chron 4:10; James 5:16; 2Thess 3:1-2; 1 John 5:16)
 4. What are the obstacles to prayer? (2Chron 7:14; Ps 66:18; Prov 28:13; Is 59:1-2).

CONCLUSION

Prayer is inevitable if we must succeed and enjoy our Christian lives. Examine your prayer life and desist from running away from the altar of prayer.

STUDY **ELEVEN**

11

TOPIC : ARISE AND OBEY

TEXT : ACTS 9:6, ACTS 26:19

MEMORY VERSE : JOHN 14:15

If ye love me, keep (obey) my commandments.

INTRODUCTION

Obedience is very important in a Christian walk or relation with God. The first law in heaven is obedience. It is the willingness to do what one is told to do. It is a clear evidence and demonstration of love and respect. If we must enjoy our relationship with God, our loving Father, then we must be totally obedient to Him.



STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Explain in your own words the meaning of obedience (I Samuel 15:22; John 14:15; John 15:14).
2. What do you understand by the term “to obey is better than sacrifice”(I Samuel 15:22)? For it to be obedience, it must be total or absolute. There is no room for partial obedience. There are no half measures. Our God demands no less.
3. Discuss Paul's statement: “I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision“(Acts 26:19).
4. What are the dangers of disobedience? (Numbers 20:7-12; 1Samuel 15:22-23; Romans 6:23).

CONCLUSION

The Christian is encouraged to love, obey and serve the lord. The only way to be happy with Jesus is to trust and obey Him.

STUDY TWELVE

TOPIC : ARISE AND BE DILIGENT

TEXT : ACTS 18:1-6

MEMORY VERSE : 2 THESSALONIANS 3:10

For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.



INTRODUCTION

Diligence means “steady effort” “showing care and effort”. The scripture teaches Christians to be diligent or hard-working. God abhors laziness and idleness. It is pertinent to note that life-time is working time. In spite of his passion for preaching the gospel and working for God, Apostle Paul was a tent-maker. This helped him not to be over-dependent and so over-burden his followers.



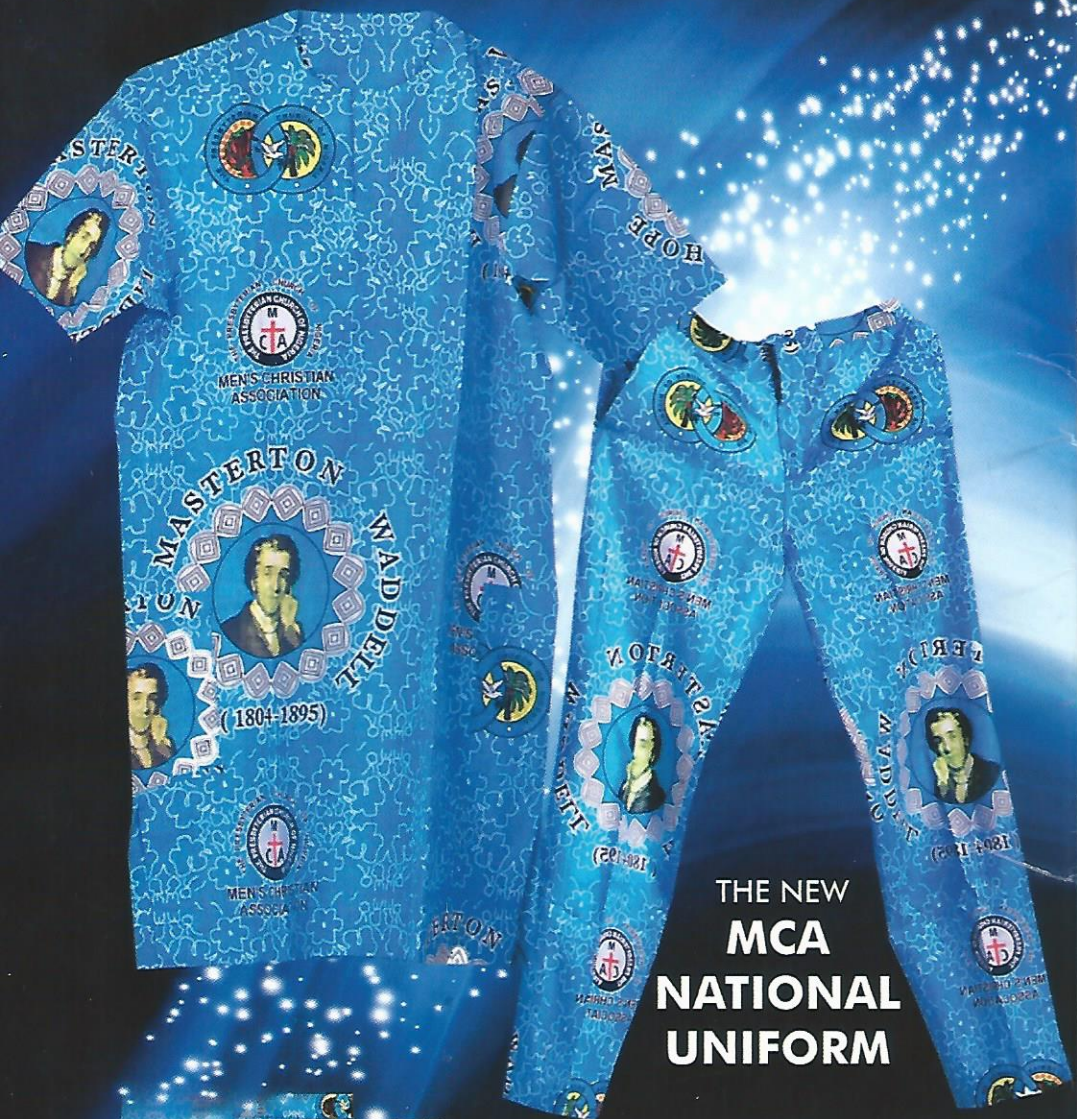
STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the meaning of diligence (Proverbs 12:10-14; 2Thess 3:8-12).
2. How does the life of Paul as a tent-maker challenge the contemporary Christians? (Acts 18:3). It shows the bible does not condone indolence, but that Christians should engage in any profitable work that will advance the cause of the gospel.
3. What lessons can we learn from (Proverbs 12:9-14)?
4. Are there any advantages to diligence?

CONCLUSION

The parable of the ten talents encourages Christians to “occupy till I come” (Luke 19:13). Brethren, we must work assiduously “while it is day for the night cometh, when no man can work” (John 9:4, Eccl. 9:10).





THE NEW
MCA
NATIONAL
UNIFORM

The new MCA National Uniform is ready and waiting for use on Father's Day in June 2020. Have you got yours? Contact your Synod Exco immediately. Simply Sown; Free Style SENATOR; Short Sleeves, No Embroidery; No Foreign Material to design; Buba and Sokoto; Up and Down. It could equally be used as Wrapper with a Free Style Short Sleeves Top; No Embroidery or any Foreign Material to design.

God bless us
 as we comply.

