**CHRIST COMPANION BIBLE CHURCH**

**Weekly Bible Study**

 ***Branch: Headquarters Date: 26/04/2022***

**The Parable of the Sower (Part 3). Study 13.**

 **TEXT: Matthew 13:8, Ecclesiastes 11:4-6.**

**MEMORY VERSE: For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister. Hebrews 6:10**

God equipped the saints differently for His own unique and peculiar purposes. The Apostles and Teachers will be variedly gifted, yet God demands profits from all. The parable of the talents attested to the fact that God is aware of respective capacity of each of His servants! He will not overload you with burdens that will crush you. **Matthew 25:15-17.**

 Surprisingly, the man with five talents gained five more, the one with two gained two more! Mathematically, both gained 100%. The Lord also rewarded them 100%! Unfortunately, the man with simplest responsibility, base on bad impression gained 0% with no reward at all!

 Every believer in the Kingdom of God is expected to make his Lord proud. This requires taking responsibility as good stewards.

**OPERATING AT YOUR HIGHEST CAPACITY. Matthew 13:8.**

 Comparison is one of the greatest cause of failure in live and ministry. When a teak tree compares its tallness with okro plant, it has foolishly undermined its potential! 2Corinthians10:12. A wise steward will match himself with his assignment, not others.

**1. Everyone in Christ is called to fulfill a particular purpose.** Moses was called as liberator/deliverer and lawgiver, but David was ordained a King and sweet psalmist! Both excelled base on God's report. Hebrew 3:5. Same God planted them on good ground, but different seeds! The common factors are faithfulness, fruitfulness and successful outcome. The questions are:

**i. Why are you called into Christ?**

**ii. What are you called to do?**

**iii. What are you doing to achieve it?**

**2. The seeds on the good ground as noted in the parable were rated differently in performance: Hundred, sixty, thirty. Same sower, same ground, same type of seed! Matthew 13:8.**

Why is the difference? In the Church today, God, His word, grace etc, are available to all, yet our profitability depends on such dispositions as:

**i. Attitude to the means of grace: Faith, seriousness, prayerfulness, obedience, zeal, etc.**

**ii. Visions and sense of commitment.**

**iii. Dept of consecration and surrenderness. 1Corinthians 9:24-27.**

**3. To operate at 30% level, when you're fashioned for 100% is unacceptable to God.**

 The master was furious at the servant that hid and wasted his given talent! Matthew 25:24-30.

Can you rate yourself in the following areas?

**i. Converts gained per year.**

**ii. Daily intercession for church gospel expansion.**

**iii. Faithfulness in tithes and offerings per month. These are to mention a few, you can as well look into other areas.**

4. Jesus said, **"For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath".** Matthew 25:29. \*Grace and unction flow towards the functional, faithful and fruitful stewards\*. To be promoted in grace and abound in service, learn to operate at your best. This may require:

i. Getting more training like Elisha with Elijah. (Discipleship).

ii. Working hard and aiming at excellent result.

iii. Setting high standard and providing impressive services.

**5. Everyone work is under the searching eyes of Christ.** The awareness of this fact should motivate all believers to give their very best to the Master. Revelation 22:12.

**6. God can change the most baren and unprofitable stewards to a shining star with unspeakable glory! 1Samuel 2:8.** The prodigal son realised his mistake, repented and took responsibility for a great change.He was eventually celebrated at last! Are you unprofitable or baren today? Seek God and take step for a great change.

**7. Joy unspeakable, promotion, reward and glory await those who labour in the Lord.** The word of Paul is a charge to all: **"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."** 1 Corinthians 15:58.

 May you have the grace to sow diligently, and reap bountifully in Christ. Amen.

Hymn:GIVE OF YOUR BEST TO THE MASTER