 **CHRIST COMPANION BIBLE CHURCH**

**Weekly Bible Study**

***Branch: Headquarters Date: 27/02/2024***

**TAKING PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR LIFE (PART1) STUDY 7.**

**Text**: Genesis 28:1-5, 10-22.

**Memory Verse**: *Prov. 22:29, Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men. Heb. 6:10, 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.*

 God by principle does not condone irresponsibility and being careless over our lives. Nothing in creation is made to be a liability but contributes in unique respects to succeed in life. God had set laws in nature to ensure individual personal responsibility!

 For example:

 *i. Law of action says: "You must take action to get a result'.*

*ii. Law of cause and effect says: "Every action you take will equally generate a reaction".*

All these are in line with the scriptures when it says:

*a. Give and you shall be given (in type and proportion).*

*b. Whatever you sow, that you shall reap (whether good or bad).*

 These principles are true and applicable in all cases of human endeavours.

 Believers who want to successfully make positive impact in both spiritual and physical dimensions of life must take cognisance of these biblical principles! Prayers will not change these principles, but can only help you to make the best advantage of them! We should understand that miracle is not a compensation for human carelessness! For Jacob as seen in our text today, it came to a time when he should be weaned from his parent’s apron’ string! Such a time when he should be personally responsible before God and man for his dreams, actions and inactions as well was very germane. In these series of studies, we will consider different sides of these principles, so as to work towards realising God's desires for us in life and eternity!

 **JACOB TAKING CHARGE, IN PURSUIT OF HIS FUTURE! GENESIS 28:10-22.**

 We have a lot to learn from the life of Jacob in his journey of life from parental dependency to fully matured self-sustained man. Let us take note of the following in Jacob's life as it applies to everyone in the race today:

1. **Jacob has a past that is influencing his present!**Remember: His past with Rebecca his mother, also his encounters with Esau his brother! Those past events dictated his present journey and experience. Genesis 27; 41-44. So is everyone today. Your present state is a product of your past life and involvement with others! Jacob at this time had no one to turn to. He had to choose to be personally responsible. So is everyone today. Genesis 28:20,21. One of the good things the past does is to provide you lessons for better choice today to brighten your future. Here, Jacob began to personally relate with God!

2. **God's promises remain true for Jacob despite life's difficulty and intricacies on his present journey of life!**Genesis 28:2-4. Isaac's offer to Jacob on this lone journey was God's covenanted promises. It became the only anchor of sustenance in the trying and difficult time. Are things difficult and wearisome for you presently? Choose to anchor your faith on God's promises and faithfulness. God will always take responsibility for your survival when you trust in Him, but you must take action to move on to succeed in life.

**3. God unexpectedly showed up for Jacob the first night of his lonely journey, though, burdened with uncertainties.** Genesis 28:11-16. He revealed to him His purposes and unfailing mercies. It is interesting to know that God was working behind the scenes of Jacob's life despite his human imperfections! Psalm 46:1-5. God has not changed! Who can expect God having apostleship plan for the like of Paul, a persecutor of the Church and an injurious fellow for that matter? ***You have a place in the heart of God, if only you will surrender to him today as did Jacob***.

**4. Jacob saw the need to tie knot with God regarding help in the following areas:**

*i. His security and protection.*

*ii. His feeding and clothing.*

*iii. His spiritual wellbeing and fulfillment on earth. Genesis 28:20-22.*

 These are basic responsibilities that God expects everyone to sort out as you trust God for it.

 *i. As a youth, what are you doing to prepare for the days ahead?*

*ii. As an adult, what are you doing to meet life's demand upon your life?*

 Life must not be an idle dream! To get it right you must plan and do the needful today.

5. Jacob learnt early in life that "nothing goes for nothing". Genesis 28:20-22. A suckling child soon learns to give at least a smile back to the mother! Jacob made vows to God upon ensuring his sustenance in his journey:

i*. To make the Lord his God.*

*ii. To build God's house*

*iii. To give back to God from that which He provided him.*

 These are essential qualities expected from all believers! Learn to be responsible towards those who contributed to your life: Parents, Pastors, mentors, teachers, friends, the society and importantly God and His cause. This is the path to a successful life journey. Amen.

**HYMN: Go Labor On**

1. Go, labor on: spend, and be spent,
Thy joy to do the Father’s will:
It is the way the Master went;
Should not the servant tread it still?
2. Go, labor on! ’tis not for naught
Thine earthly loss is heavenly gain;
Men heed thee, love thee, praise thee not;
The Master praises: what are men?
3. Go, labor on! enough, while here,
If He shall praise thee, if He deign
The willing heart to mark and cheer:
No toil for Him shall be in vain.
4. Go, labor on while it is day:
The world’s dark night is hastening on;
Speed, speed thy work, cast sloth away;
It is not thus that souls are won.
5. Men die in darkness at thy side,
Without a hope to cheer the tomb;
Take up the torch and wave it wide,
The torch that lights time’s thickest gloom.
6. Toil on, faint not, keep watch and pray,
Be wise the erring soul to win;
Go forth into the world’s highway,
Compel the wanderer to come in.
7. Toil on, and in thy toil rejoice!
For toil comes rest, for exile home;
Soon shalt thou hear the Bridegroom’s voice,
The midnight peal, “Behold, I come!”