



THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD
Living Faith Chapel, Calgary

Bible study:

Tuesday, September 3, 2013

Theme: Move Forward

Topic: **Enemies of Progress**

Text: Phil. 3:7-14, Exodus 14:8-15, Num 13:1-33

Introduction

We are welcome to this month, our month of moving forward. It is the desire and intention of our God for us to move forward / make progress in every area of life. Prov 4:18, 3Jn vs 2

However the way up may not be smooth all through; there may be battles to fight. We need to recognize the enemies we might encounter in our attempt to move forward and how deal to with such so that we can successfully reach our goals and fulfill God's plan and purpose bearing in mind that we shall give account at the end of our sojourn. Rom 14:12, Matt25:14-25.

As we trust God to bless us through this teaching in Jesus name.

An Enemy is an adversary. It is an opposing force. Someone who opposes the interest of another It is also something destructive or injurious in its effects.

The Bible describes the devil as our enemy 1Peter 5:8 who has the mission to steal, to kill and to destroy. John 10:10

Also Worldliness is an enmity unto God. 1 John 2:15-16, Rom 8:7

Examples of Enemies

- **Self:** Thoughts and perceptions that place limitation on an individual's abilities Prov 23:7
- **Fear:** This is one of the common enemies many people face including Christians. It is a powerful tool the enemy uses to truncate destinies and dreams. Fear is an unpleasant emotion caused by the belief that someone or something is dangerous, likely to cause pain, or a threat. It is false evidence appearing real. In fact, it is a great enemy towards spiritual and all kinds of progress. Ability to overcome fears so as to bring into reality the life dreams is one of the best experiences in the world. Exo 14:10, 1 Jn 4:18
- **Anger:** This is a strong character problem that has destroyed many destinies. Eccle 7:9
- **Regret and guilt:** 'Could have' 'should have' of life's past events. When stuck in the past, progress is almost impossible. Many people dwell so long on the past that they forget the present and a glorious future God has for them. Exo 14:12, Isa 43:25, Jere 29:11
- **Pride:** many destinies have been sacrificed on the altar of pride. God resist the proud but gives more grace to the humble. James 4:6, 1Peter 5:5, Prov 16:18
- **Unbelief and doubt:** Failure to believe in the power of God James 1:6-8, Num 13:30-31
- **Procrastination:** Procrastination is the thief of time. Failure to do what is expected to be done at the right time. Prov 13:4; Ecc 3:1, Acts 24:24-25; Prov 20:4; Eph 5:15-17

- **Laziness and slothfulness:** Prov 22:29; Prov 10: 4; Prov 12:24
- **Wrong Association/company:** 2Cor 6:14-18, 1Cor 15:33
- **Disobedience:** 1Sam 15:23;

How to deal with these enemies?

- i. Speak the Word to your mountain/enemy Mark 11:23
- ii. Total obedience unto God ; I Sam 15:22
- iii. Determination, Discipline and self control: Job 14:14, Phil 3:12-14, Ruth 1:6-17
- iv. Resist the devil: James 4:7
- v. Diligence and hard work: Prov 13:4; Prov 12:24; Prov14:23;; Gen 26:12, Acts 17:11
- vi. Ask God to help: Ps 68: 1; 1 Sam2:9b
- vii. Choose your friend: Prov27:17
- viii. Humble yourself before God: James 4:10
- ix. Through our testimony: Rev 12:11; Rev 19:10
- x. Fasting and praying: Luke 18:1, Matt 17:21
- xi. Faith in God. Mark 9:23, 11:22

Conclusion

To fulfill God's plan and purpose, we are not expected to run from the enemy but to confront it. In doing this, our victory is assured and progress is guaranteed. Eph 6:12-18, Rom8:37