



**The Redeemed Christian Church of God**  
*Living Faith Chapel, Calgary*

**Removing Hindrances to Moving Forward – Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> 2013**

**INTRODUCTION**

You are all welcome in Jesus name. I believe we have an interesting theme this month – “Move Forward”. It is a topic that I dare say is self-explanatory. Everyone both young and old can relate to this topic. Who does not want to move forward? Everybody wants to move forward. Yet it is also obvious that there are obstacles – both natural, man-made or self-inflicted that prevents us from moving forward. God wants you to move forward. He wants me to move forward. God’s promises to His children centers on moving forward. There is an adage “**You cannot manage what you cannot measure**”. Understanding what the hindrances to moving forward are will help in their removal. Let us look at some of hindrances to moving forward and how to remove them

**1. No Vision or Goal**

Not having a vision or goal is a hindrance to moving forward. The earth was void before God says let there be light. In **Gen. 50:24-25**, Joseph had a vision, a goal that he must not be buried in Egypt. Remember the tower of Babel – **Gen. 11:3-4**. Jesus Christ has a vision – the gospel must be preached to all corners of the world before He comes back. **Mark 16:15**. Have a vision. Have goal. Commit your vision/goal into the able hands of God. You must not be satisfied with where you are. Always strive to improve yourself. Always strive to move forward in every area of life. Dress for the job that you want and not for the one that you have. Endeavour to use the power of affirmation in the word of God.

**2. Depending On Your Own Strength**

The bible says for “by strength shall no man prevail.” In the battle of Ai, **Joshua 7:2-6**, Joshua and the people of Israel depended on their own strength to possess the city of Ai. What was the result? They failed woefully. In your quest to move forward, do not depend on your own strength. **1 Sam. 2:9** says “The Lord will keep the feet of His saints and for by strength shall no man prevail.” Let God be your strength as you strive to move forward.

**3. Self-Defeating Attitude**

Life at times throws all sorts of things in our way. Life’s challenges that we face can sometimes be man-made, self-inflicted or source may be unknown to us. Either way it comes, you must resolve not to allow the challenge to crush you. You must resolve to “get-up” each time you fall. Two good examples I want us to look at on how not to self-defeat ourselves are King David and Joseph. **King David - 2 Sam. 12:1-20**. **Joseph – Gen. 37:18-36**. You must ask God for strength at all times to face whatever challenges that may come your way. When you dwell on the past, there is the tendency for this to slow you down or knock you off the track. King David and Joseph did not start feeling sorry for themselves. Look at Joseph. He was sold into slavery by his own blood – may God save us from our own blood in Jesus name.

**4. Debt**

Debt especially financial debt is one of the hindrances you need to remove from your life to move forward. It is one area that I think we are not doing enough to educate or teach to avoid this trap of the enemy. What does the bible say about debt? **2 Kings 4:1-7**. In biblical times, you can put your debtor in jail – **Mathew 18:23-34**. Yet some of us are quick to rush to the banks to borrow without adequate thoughts or considerations on how to pay back. So how easy is it to move forward with heavy burden of debt and with creditors calling your home every day to come and pay your debt? We fold our arms or throw it up in despair and wish the creditors to just vanish into thin air or if I don’t answer their calls, they will let go of their money! **Romans 13:8** says “**owe no man anything**”. Not only do some of us owe man, but we also owe God in tithes and offerings. Resolve not to be in debt. It is not fashionable to be a debtor. If in debt already ask God to please help and make a way out for you to pay off your debt.

**5. Impatience**

Some of us are so much in a hurry to move forward. We are very impatient. When a woman is pregnant, there is a defined period of time for the baby to develop and to be delivered of her baby. When a farmer plants, there is a defined period of time for him to harvest. Our God is long suffering. He is very patient.

Abraham and Sarah's impatience cost them and is still costing the world quite a lot. God always has a plan. The bible says in **Psalms 86:15** "**But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth**" Look at Zecharias and Elisabeth(Luke 1) You must ask God to help you to be patient for His plan to materialise in your life. After all, He says in **Jeremiah 29:11** "**His thoughts towards you are thoughts of peace and not of evil, and to give you an expected end**"

#### **6. Lack of Contentment**

The bible says in **1 Tim. 6:6** "**But godliness with contentment is a great gain**". Are you content with what you have? And what is contentment? Contentment is not getting what we want but being satisfied with what we. It is being in a state of happiness with what God has given you. Of course we are not staying you should be satisfied with poverty or stagnation. Let your discontentment with lack, poverty, debt, stagnation push you closer to God, push you to seek God's face and favour, push you to ask God to help you identify the right work to do and to work hard at it. To move forward, you must learn to be content with what you have and not allow discontentment to push you into actions you will not be proud of or that God will not be proud of.

#### **Prayer**

1. Father pls deliver me from myself now and help me to move forward in every area of life to your glory.