



grenepages

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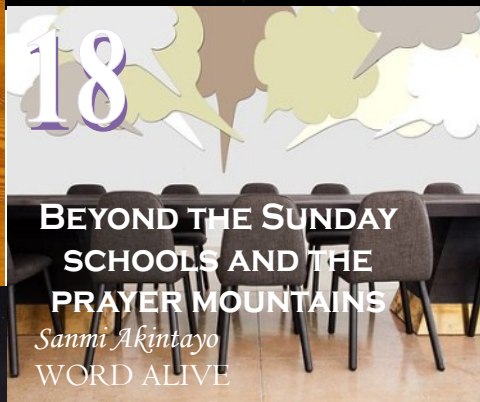
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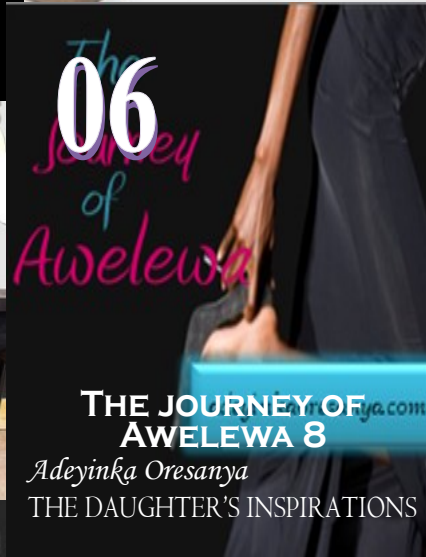
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**NOT INTIMIDATED
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10th Word

Some much is said in the world today about deeds, only a few is said about doing good. Much less is said about the most important - doing it right.

So we are all up and doing. We tick our boxes; this done, that completed. Yet with all of these, we only get a little reward. Are we doing them right?

THOSE THINGS, DEAR SISTER and brother, goes BEYOND THE SUNDAY SCHOOLS AND PRAYER MOUNTAINS. It does not even matter if you keep a NIGHTWATCH. THE DYNAMICS OF GOD require us following the DUE PROCESS, DOING IT THE RIGHT WAY.

GET OFF THAT TRAP of ticking mere boxes. DO NOT BE INTIMIDATED, KEEP HOPES ALIVE even if you are alone in THE JOURNEY.

In this 10th edition, we draw your attention to the little, but vital details that we often leave out while we serve the master. We must do it right.

Welcome to *grenepages*.

Tobi Slowookere





those

Joan Abimbola

MINISTERING RHYTHMS

<https://joanministeringrhythms.wordpress.com>

**Our troubles
Our struggles
Those things that make us fret
Are only stepping-stones to strength...**

**Our shame
Our pain
Those things that make us feel 'lame'
All have a way of leading to gain...**

**Our errors
Our failures
Those vices that make us feel lost
Are sometimes moulding a better us**

**Our 'defeat'
And all that make us 'unfit'
Those sour parts of our story
Do have a way of leading to victory...**

But as for you, be strong and do not give up

2 Chronicles

e things

Our Tears
Our fears
Those things we dread to face
... Are to be used to build our courage...

Never give up
Even when it's tough
Let out good attitudes
Like that of gratitude...

Keep breathing
Keep believing
Keep living with strong hope
Dwell not on the stones life throws...

There's an end
A product of faith or fear
What you believe
That, you'll receive...



ve up, for your work will be rewarded
S 15:7 (NIV)



Adeyinka Oresanya

THE DAUGHTER'S INSPIRATIONS

<http://adeyinkaoresanya.com>

Read previous episodes [here...](#)

When I drove into our compound, only one thing was on my

mind—Indomie Bolognese. Don't ask. And only one person knew how to cook it well—Sara.

I knew she was going to be home because she was always home on Mondays. As a makeup artist, mid-week to weekends were her own gig days, hence she always chose Mondays to relax at home. So, armed with three bars of Toblerone, I set to coax her into cooking me some delicious bolognese.

I walked into the house and made straight for Sara's bedroom.

"Sara," I called.

I narrowed my eyes. Sara's bed was neatly

made, and she was standing before the mirror, dressed in jeans and an egg-yellow blouse, doing what she knew how to do best, carving her face.

"Babe, how was your day?" she greeted.

"Where are you going?"

"I h-a-v-e a d-a-t-e," Sara sang, jiggling her waist to the music.

There went my Indomie bolognese.

the journey

"You remember Dapo, the guy who walked up to us at Shoprite?"

I crossed my arms around my chest.

"Nope."

Sara rolled her eyes. "Anyways, we've been chatting, and he asked me to meet him at Tantalisers in Bodija."

My frown deepened. "Why would he ask

you to meet him at Tantalisers?”

She applied lipstick and pouted her mouth. “Awe, o de o. You have started again. What’s the big deal in meeting a guy at Tantie’s?”

“There is no big deal in meeting a guy at Tantie’s. I just have a slight problem with where this might lead to. Don’t you think it’s too early to start seeing another guy?

us are hoping and we can’t afford your teeny weeny ideals.”

Ouch! That hurt. Why do friends always think I have it all perfect just because I try to point out the obvious? I would love someone to do the same for me if they would only take time to observe and care. However, no matter what they thought about me, I would still say the truth if it would help us all get to have that successful relationship we all crave for.

I tried again. “Sara,

it’s these bits of ideals that turn into big issues in the future.”

“Please, save this for another day, okay?

This girl you are looking at is going on a date. Who knows, this might just turn out to be it.”

Ayoade’s palaver is barely a month.”

Sara turned to me. “You know

it’s easy for you to always lay things out in black and white, Awe. You keep talking about ideals because you are in a decent relationship. Guess what? Some of

“Alright, then.” I raised my hands in surrender. It was time to shut up.

“Let’s get to know this guy before we start to judge.”

A smile crept up her red-coloured lips. “Thanks, Sis. How do I look?”

“Perfect!” I said and found my way to my bedroom, my bars of Toblerone in my bag, to be use-

of awelewa



ful another day.

I finally made the Indomie bolognese myself, even though I didn't get the satisfaction I craved for, and was about to wash my empty plate and pot when Sara called out to me.

I glanced at my watch and frowned. It wasn't up to two hours she had left for her date.

"In the kitchen," I yelled.

What's up? The guy didn't show? I thought.

Sara walked in.

"Hey, what's up? Bro. *What's His Name* didn't show?" I asked.

She eyed me and burst into a weird laughter. She laughed so much, her eyes began to tear up. I paused my washing and stared at her.

"What happened, Sara?"

"I've had my share of crazy men, Awe," she said in between laughs. "I don't think there are still any decent guys out there."

"Come on, girl. Out with it already!"

"He came in, alright," Sara narrated, "after about twenty minutes of holding me up, all dressed in suit and killer shoes. Just can't figure out the designer. Thinking of it now, it must have been Aba made."

She burst into laughter again.

"Sara, be serious now!"

"I'm serious, jo," she said. "When he got to my table, he said, 'I'm so sorry I'm late. I had to stay longer at Iya Dapo's place to fill up my tummy. I was—'"

"Hold up, who is Iya Dapo?" I asked.

Sara rolled her eyes. "His mum. His name is Dapo.

Well, that was how I got to know all about Iya Dapo in the remaining fifteen minutes I spent there."

She deepened her voice to imitate Dapo's. "Do you know how to cook at all? Iya Dapo is the best cook in this world. Before I get married, my wife-to-be must first go for a three-month tutorial to learn from Iya Dapo... Iya Dapo, my mum, she is a superwoman, Iya ni Iya mi... yada yada yada."

My mouth was permanently shaped into an O. "This is unbelievable!"

"You better believe it, Awe." She clapped her hands. "I had to feign stomach upset and begged to leave. I didn't know the worst was not yet over."

"Ehn ehn?"

"He said, 'Wait, how much have you spent for food and how much is your transport fare?' and then made a show of searching his pockets, probably, for his wallet." Sara continued. "He looked at me with confused eyes, 'Ha, I must have lost my wallet when I was rushing down to meet you. It must have been the okada man. Don't worry I will reimburse you. I would even need to get transport fare from you till I can get home to transfer to your account.'"

“Seriously?” I said.

“I looked into his eyes and saw the lies and deception.” Sara shook her head. “I thought, how did I end up here? And I started to laugh.” Sara laughed again.

“Seriously, Sara, you laughed to his face?”

“Oh yes, I did. He was such a fool and I had to let him know. I just picked up my purse and walked out of the place.”

“Ha, you left the guy stranded, Sara. At least you could have dashed him transport fare now.”

“God forbid! I don’t care if his behind walks all the way down to Iya Dapo’s place. Foolish dude.”

I burst into laughter and she joined in. This was really ridiculous and I couldn’t wrap my head around it.

“Awe, I’m sorry for snapping at you earlier. You were right, I need a break.”

“No problem, babe. It’s okay,” I replied.

“Hmmm, I need to spend time to rebuke all losers from my destiny in Jesus’ name.”

She began to shake her head vigorously.

I burst into laughter. “Sara, you are not a serious person.”

“Alright o. You will soon see that I’m serious,” she said. “Look, I’m off to my room to watch movies, what I should have done in the first place.”

“Yes, baby. Enjoy yourself,” I replied.

“Scandal all the way.” She smiled at me and walked out of the kitchen.

I shook my head at the funny story I just heard. Three-month tutorial from a future mother-in-law. Really? Seriously, some guys need to grow up.

Then, single ladies need to take a chill pill in the area of searching for Mr Right. Some guys are like sharks that smell blood. They smell desperation and go in for the kill, begin to treat a lady anyhow once they sense that she desires a relationship badly or she’s limited in her choices.

I would keep praying earnestly for my dear friend to find her Prince Charming and for my own relationship not to scatter, too. Every good thing needs prayers, ain’t it?

... to be continued.

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Adeoye Akinwumi
AKINWUMI'S HANDWRITING(S)
<http://nikeadeoye.blogspot.co.uk>

Dear Sister,

Pèlé, I understand how you feel.

You are passionately pursuing purpose and all the potential suitors are just upgraded riff raffs.

Yes, Christian brothers come along once a

Dear Sister!

while, but the subject of destiny is not so understandable to them.

You have even tried to patch one up, but your deep kept calling so loud, and his shallow could not keep up.

It is why you cannot explain yourself so well too mere people or you are sad people do not understand when they wonder why you are still single. You know it is not because

there are no godly men.

It is a painful ride, that at some point you think you know too much.

Let me let you know, the last time I asked if my knowing too much might be a challenge, this is the reply a big brother gave me, "You don't even know enough."

Have you thought maybe the fact that you have given yourself deeply and early enough to the road of destiny might be a threat to men?

I am not majorly encouraging you to wait some more this time. I will still do so.

My highlight here is that I feel what you feel.

There are too many unserious brothers all around.

You start courting them and you are shocked!

"Bro, were you not under the sexual purity discussion?"

What of the

entire sermon about purpose?"

You then realize only a few including yourself have been working out these teachings and the brothers with the big bibles were only attending programs religiously.

I KNOW HOW IT FEELS!

I know how it feels that you have to painstakingly wait for such brother whose deep can call out to yours.

The wait will not be so long again.



Tosin Babalola

THE PREVAILING WORD

<http://tosinbabalola.blogspot.com>

That I am confused and feel helpless and it looks like God is nowhere in the picture does not mean He is not in it; working something out. Ask Ruth!

That you have tried to solve a problem six different times and you are about to give up does not mean you will not succeed at the seventh attempt. Ask Joshua!

That no one else is doing it but God has asked you to do it does not mean He is not in it, however how long it takes the proofs to show. Ask Noah of his 100 years #projectark!

Joseph the dreamer had an encounter and he told. Mary had an encounter and she kept them in her heart. Their reactions did not hamper

the dynamics of God

That all the ‘i’s seem dotted and the ‘t’s crossed and everything looks picture perfect does not mean that God is in it. Ask Samuel!

That God does it through me or for me at a time or through a process that is contrary to logic does not mean my results do not hold sway. Ask Peter about his broad daylight fishing expedition!

their destinies.

To thyself only, be true!

Do not put God in a box or a straightjacket because... *“The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.”* John 3:8 KJV



Wunmi Falodun
MY LIVING HOPE

www.mylivinghopealternatives.org/

Sometime ago, my goddaughter dropped by to say hello. Because she had not seen me for a while, she refused to play with me, come close to me, neither did she allow me carry her.

She studied me for a while and we eventually began playing, then out of excitement, I threw her up happily and she responded with the loudest shout/cry I have ever heard in my life.

I became both confused and afraid and I asked her mother, “Don’t you play with her like that?” She responded, “We do, she just doesn’t trust you that much yet.”

“Wow! My 11 months old daughter understands the concept of trust and discern-

ment much more than I do?” I could not help but ask myself.

She understands that these things take time. How often do we jump the gun and circumvent the process without ‘testing all spirits’ simply because we’re excited and emotional? In addition, we end up in places God never intended for us. We conclude about seasons, people, circumstances or what have you based on assumptions, without finding out, without being led by the spirit of God. Our emotions are capable of clouding our sense of reasoning and can very well prevent us from hear-

due process

ing from God.

Some things in life take time and there is nothing we can do about that, other than to give it time. Stop trying to rush the process. Time and the Holy Spirit reveal a whole lot to people. The process is good for every one of us; it reveals a lot and prevents us from unnecessary mishaps and happenstance.

When next you are tempted to jump the gun or do things irrationally, stop and think of the benefits of following due processes.

Do not miss
any issue!

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Tobi Olowookere
GRACEDPAGES

<https://gracedpages.wordpress.com>

“God should have really shown he is the almighty. He should have created the whole earth in one second. Why did the creation have to take him six days? In fact, is he not all-powerful? Why did he have to rest on the seventh day?”

God chooses to do what he wants, whenever he wants, wherever he wants, however he wants, to, with and for whomever he wants. None of these change who God is. God is God. God is sovereign. Even if it takes him five years to draw a line on your piece of paper, he is still God Almighty. God almighty dropped some lessons for us at creation, it is important that we pay attention to some of these things.

One of the greatest words ever spoken remains, “Rome was not built in a day.”

After each day’s job, God took his time to go over it again. That was why the bible said, “He looked and saw that it was good.”

Yes, we say no man is perfect, but God says we can do perfectly as he does his things. How? Go over things again as He does. By that, you take away all errors and be sure that your work is good.

I should not do a job and immediately give my Client/ Boss; I should check it out again and assess myself. I should not rush through an exam and just submit to the examiner; I should take time to go through my scripts again to ensure no mistakes.

If God almighty who would never make mistakes reviewed his work, who are you not to?

doing it the

God did not finish all his creation in one day. Even though he is the almighty God and could have spit-ted the whole thing out of his mouth all at once, he took his time to do it bit by bit. Patience!! We should learn to be patient with the execution of our ideas, assignments and all that we do. The fact that you know what to do, you have all the resources at hand does not mean you should just rush through it. God demonstrates it is better done bit by bit. No Rushing!

At close of business each day, the way God looked at his job and passed comments suggested that he always knew it could be better. Have you read your Genesis? God would come up the next day, go back to the job and add something new. He did that continuously until the seventh day. He was never satisfied with yesterday’s achievement. We should never be over-satisfied/ complacent and sit down in the same place because of a huge result/ success. It can always be better. No matter how good

it is. We can always improve on every beautiful thing, just like God.

Whatever you have is not the best you can have. It can be better. Whatever you have done is not the best you can do. Look at it again; you can do better.

God Almighty had the ability to be a one-person committee, but he chose not to. "Let us make man in our own image," he said.

"Let us..." suggests a way of asking for people's opinion on a matter.

"Let us..." suggests a way of asking for help in executing the project.

God did not need anybody's help for anything, but he chose to bring other persons in. He definitely did that to show you something.

On earth, you will always need help. You were not cre-

right way

ated an island and you must not act like one. Man is designed to need each other. Even when it seems like you have all you need, always seek people's opinion. Always ask for help. You will need it.

"Come now, Let us reason together..." that's God again.

If the creator will ask his creature of its opinion, how bigger are you than your fellow man? Always seek help/assistance.

God looked at all that he created, and saw that it was

all very good. God saw all. The bible says God finished his project (Genesis 2:1). God did not stop the project until it was all done.

How many times have you begun things and you stopped by the way? God dropped a lesson for you at creation. Never stop until all is done. It may get difficult and you may face oppositions. There may be unforeseen challenges and it may be taking longer than you thought.

Just put on that godly attitude; "Never stop until it is done."

God rested on the seventh day; I mean God-all powerful, rested on the seventh day. He had to, for your sake. God did not rest because he was tired. God never gets tired but

he decided to rest. As a man, your strength goes out as you work. You should learn to decide when to rest. Do not wait until you break down before you are forced to rest. Always make a decision to rest even though you are not feeling tired yet. Rest should not be a reaction; it should be a decision.

Back in my secondary school days, a Muslim classmate always came top of my class. I felt insulted, so I decided to check out what he was doing

extra. I started writing "IJN" on my scripts when I noticed he writes "BRR" on his. Guess what? That made no difference. While I was the "wuruwuru-to-the-answer type," he, on the other hand, did his own things very carefully. Good success is not a gift; it is a reward. *But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.* 1 Corinthians 15:10 NKJV



Ope Rowland
THRIVE

<http://operowland.blogspot.com>

As you know, you Philippians were the only ones who gave me financial help when I brought you the Good News and then traveled on from Macedonia. No other church did this. Even when I was in Thessalonica you sent help more than once.

Philippians 4:15-16 NLT

Paul was not just the vessel used by God to start a number of churches in Asia; he remained a continuous blessing to them through his oversight, visits, prayers, letters and dispatch of emissaries to them. One would have thought that one way the churches would have shown their gratitude was to support Paul. Alas, this was not so. Paul openly declared this in his epistle to the church in Philippi, which was the only exception. This situation was not a secret, as Paul said, “As you know...” The Philippian church was doing what not everyone was doing and continued at it. They were not intimidated by the others not doing it. One

could be tempted to argue that may be the other churches were not aware of Paul’s situation. However, must Paul beg before they know he was to be supported?

What do we say of the church in Galatia that was taught through the writings of their mentor that “Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches” (Galatians 6:6 NKJV).

not intimidated

What do we say of the church in Corinth that was supporting the ‘super apostles’ that came their way after they were established that Paul had to challenge them, “If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things? If others are partakers of this right over you, are we not even more? Nevertheless we have not used this right, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ.” (1 Corinthians 9:11-12 NKJV)

It was obvious that the other churches knew

the right thing to do. Nevertheless, they did not do the right thing. Nevertheless, unlike the others, the Philippian church did the right thing and continued in it. They refused to be intimidated by the passiveness of the bigger and older churches.

How often have we stopped doing the right thing because we realize we are the only one doing it. On realizing that even the 'super brothers and sisters' do not even do it, we question what our stress is after all. We

in right doing

too tend to compromise when we realize that other Christians in our circle have long compromised on that issue. Even when we still have the urge to go on with the right thing, we refused because we do not want the backlash from others, which could be verbal and non-verbal. We do not want to be looked at cynically as the 'holier than thou'. We just want to be comfortable enough to blend in with the others. Amidst the super charged spiritual ones, we step down because we do not want to be seen as a rebel. We are intimidated from doing the right things.

How many have shied away from the truth because they realize there is no one to support them, look up-

on as models or no like minds around. We are simply scared of being the minority and the different one.

At some point, the Philippian church sent the support while Paul was with the Thessalonica church, another church that was not doing what they were doing.

Sometimes, we are bold to stand by the right in front of some but when it comes

to doing it before people who should know but are not doing we backtrack and soft-pedal. Probably because we do not want our right actions to paint them in bad light as their passiveness becomes obvious. Therefore, we are intimidated because we want

them to look good. The people in Philippi church were not 'environmental do goods'.

Even when we allow ourselves to be intimidated and we refuse to do the right thing; it still does not change the right thing from being the right thing.

Oh that we might be courageous enough to insist on the right thing even when it seems unpopular like the Christians in Philippi did amidst the other churches.

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