

C THE LABOURER'S TERMS OF COVENANT

The Art of Living by the Gospel of Christ ▶ April 2011; Issue No.04 Vol. 11

THE FATHER'S HEART AND VISION

By Joseph Enyima

Most of us as believers desire to live our lives for God. If you however ask different believers what their understanding of living life for God is, the chances are high that the answers will differ from one believer to another. So what exactly does it mean to live your life for God?

Living your life for God is all about ensuring that what you devote your life to is something that will count for eternity. Luke 2:49 records Jesus' response to His parents who were anxiously searching for Him, following His decision to linger behind in Jerusalem after the Feast of the Passover: "...**Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?**" From this response of Jesus in Luke 2:49, we know that God has an agenda in the earth; and living our lives for God is simply being relevant to that agenda. According to the dictionary, something is relevant if it is "relieving; lending aid or support".

So what is God's agenda in the earth? You don't need to go far to know God's agenda on earth. It is plainly and clearly laid out in John 3:16: **"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life"**. God's agenda is that of redeeming lives. And in carrying out His agenda, God is guided by a single motive and vision – the motive of love and the vision of the world. In other words, God's agenda is characterized by a heart of love and an eye for the world. "For God so loved...that he gave..." Love is what motivated God to release Jesus as a sacrifice for our redemption. Love for what? Love for the world. Love for people. Love for you and me.

We can therefore conclude that as far as living our lives for God is concerned, our lives are relevant to God's agenda in the earth only to the degree that our pursuits are propelled by a heart of love and an eye for the world.

Have you ever considered the fact that of all the many things in the earth today only two will last for eternity? Yes, only people and the Word of God will last forever. I find that a very sobering thought and it always makes me think twice about my pursuits. The Bible tells us to consider our manner of life in light of the fact that all that there is in the world today will one day be no more:

"...the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." (2 Peter 3:10-13)

Elsewhere, the Bible gives us the following advice regarding what our manner of life should be in light of what is going to happen to the world as we know it today: **"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever."** (1 John 2:15-17).

How then do we go about developing a heart of love with an eye for the world (the people)? I once saw a car bumper sticker with this message: "think global, act local". This sticker was in connection to some environmental cause but I believe the principle of its message applies to believers seeking to make their lives relevant to God's agenda in the earth. Having an eye for the world is about

having a strategic focus. It is relating with people knowing that the influence of the love of God on them through your life has a multiplier effect that can end up having a worldwide impact for the kingdom of God.

Jesus had such a strategic focus in His relationship with the twelve disciples. He influenced them with the love of God to the point that they became transformed. As a result of His influence over these few individuals, the Church today has a worldwide presence. Speaking of Jesus' strategic focus in His relationships, the Bible says, **"...He went up on the mountain and called to Him those He Himself wanted. And they came to Him. Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach, and to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out demons"**.(Mark 3:13-15).

We see another example of strategic focus at work in the life of the Apostle Paul. Paul met a couple by the names of Aquila and Priscilla and he decided to develop a strong and strategic relationship with them (Acts 18). He significantly influenced them with the love of God that they turned out to be missionaries in Ephesus. They too in turn, met a man named Apollos whom they took unto themselves and significantly influenced him in the things of God that **"...when [Apollos] was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace."** (Acts 18:27)

A few months ago, I received a phone call from a gentleman unknown to me. He introduced himself and explained how he had benefited from our prison outreaches and ministry materials during his prison sentence. He went ahead to narrate how he is now pastoring a local church in one of the Ssesse islands in Lake Victoria, and the fact that his congregation was in the process of roofing their worship building. To think that the love of God working through our ministry had significantly influenced this young man to the point of relocating him to such a remote island is a striking reminder of what a heart of love with an eye for the world can do.

As you think about living your life for God, think about personally reaching out with the love of God in you to purposefully influence someone to connect with God, His Word and His vision for their lives. Determine to lend aid or support to someone's entry into the kingdom of God or to their growth in Christ-likeness; and then hold yourself accountable to that decision. | [CWM](#)

The LTOC Archives go on-line!

The Word of God is a timeless treasure. It is always rich with the revelation we need to live purposefully and victoriously. Part of that revelation is what God has made available to the Body of Christ through anointed Bible teachings by ministers and teachers of the gospel of Christ.

Assembled for you now at www.cwm.or.ug, is a collection of anointed Bible teachings that have featured in past editions of the Labourer's Terms of Covenant (LTOC) monthly study issue. A regular dose of these teachings is a sure way to stay an overcomer in life.

Plus, you can multiply your obedience to the Great Commission by emailing these teachings to your friends as God leads. Simply visit www.cwm.or.ug and experience the simplicity of being an online missionary.

Where Do You Stand with God?

If you have never accepted Jesus as your personal Saviour and Lord, the bad news is that you are separated from God and are walking "...according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience" (Ephesians 2:3). The good news however, is that you don't have to continue that way. You can be reconciled with God and born into His family by simply praying the following prayer:

Salvation Prayer:

Heavenly Father, I come to You in the Name of Jesus. Your Word says, "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 2:21). I am calling on You. I pray and ask Jesus to come into my heart and be Lord over my life according to Romans 10:9-10. "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." I do that now. I confess that Jesus is Lord, and I believe in my heart that God raised Him from the dead.

Additional Resources:

If you've prayed the above prayer, write the CWM Mission Team and request a free copy of our Reception Package – a set of resources assembled to give you a right start on your journey to victorious living.



Vision Caster

Imparting the Art and Heart for Multiplying Kingdom Labourers

Happy 10th Birthday!

April 2011 is the 10th Anniversary of the Labourer's Terms of Covenant (LTOC) Study Issue. For the CWM Mission Team here at Covenant Word Ministries, this 10th anniversary of the LTOC is a great cause of joy and celebration. We are celebrating more than a number. We are celebrating 10 years of partnership with our Associates and Friends in:

- reaching believers with faith-building teachings, and
- casting vision for strong lifelong discipleship relationships

What better way to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the LTOC than getting involved in reaching lives with the faith-building and life-changing teaching that feature monthly in the LTOC. Imagine having access to the influence of the Spirit and power of God through a steady monthly supply of faith-building teachings. That is what access to the LTOC can mean for you and your loved ones. For an annual subscription fee of Ushs 18,000 (or USD 10), you can register for one of our subscription options:

- a) If personal study of the printed LTOC is what you are looking for, simply request the **Personal Subscription** option;
- b) If your desire is to bless a loved one or a friend with the printed LTOC, request the **Gift Subscription** option;
- c) And for believers who enroll for our Associate Ministry Programme, subscription for your Mission Cluster members is automatic under the **MAF Subscription** option.

For correspondence, please write to:

CWM Mission Team, Covenant Word Ministries | Plot 71A, Bunyonyi Drive, Nakawa, Kampala
P.O. Box 33288 Kampala, Uganda | Tel: 256 (0)41 4344745
E-mail: missionteam@cwmm.or.ug | Website: <http://www.cwmm.or.ug>

For subscription payments or donations, make a direct deposit to our bank account:

Account Name: Covenant Word Ministries | Account No.: 0140002100701
Bank: Stanbic Bank | Branch: IPS | Swift Code: SBICUGKX



Covenant Word Ministries, Inc

Covenant Word Ministries (CWM) is a para-church organization dedicated to helping people connect with God, His Word and His Vision for their lives through nurturing faith and casting vision.

Our vision is “a global community of Kingdom co-labourers victoriously leading lives by the glorious gospel of Christ Jesus”. And our mission is “to reach and train believers to apply their lives to the glorious gospel of Christ Jesus and to multiplying Kingdom labourers”.

CWM executes its mission through three ministry programmes using five ministry outreaches: i) A monthly study issue – The Labourer’s Terms of Covenant; ii) Mission Campaigns; iii) Annual Associates and Alumni Mission Seminars; iv) Life Application Product Offers; and v) a Ministry Website.

Our ministry programmes include:

1. The **Associate Ministry Programme (AMP)**: A Mission Apprenticeship Fellowship (MAF) through which CWM initiates believers into a lifestyle of building and multiplying strong lifelong discipleship relationships within the context of a ministry framework and curriculum.
2. The **MAF Alumni Ministry Programme**: A liaison ministry through which the CWM Mission Team interacts with MAF Alumni members for purposes of fellowship, prayer and joint ministry to their lifelong Christian friends as God leads. The MAF Alumni is an alliance of accredited Mission Partners that have completed the CWM’s Associate Ministry Programme.
3. The **‘Psalm 68:11 Corps’ Ministry Programme**: A correspondence ministry that involves extending the reach of our monthly study issue - The Labourer’s Terms of Covenant – to believers in 50 prison facilities in Uganda. CWM is currently reaching believers in 21 of these prisons across 12 districts: Kampala (4), Wakiso (3), Jinja (3), Mukono (1), Kayunga (1), Masaka (1), Mbarara (3), Ibanda (1), Nakasongola (1), Kumi (1), Soroti (1) and Abim (1).

For further information about CWM and its operations, please visit us online at www.cwm.or.ug



The **MAF Alumni** is an alliance of believers (Accredited Mission Partners) who have completed the CWM Associate Ministry Programme – a Mission Apprenticeship Fellowship (MAF) through which believers are initiated into a lifestyle of building strong lifelong discipleship relationships within the context of a ministry framework and curriculum.

As a member of the MAF Alumni, you become a lifetime partaker of the MAF Alumni Ministry Programme whose objective is to encourage believers in their lifelong discipleship relationships after their three-year apprenticeship fellowship with CWM as Associates.

Under this programme, the CWM Mission Team liaises with accredited Mission Partners for purposes of fellowship, prayer and joint ministry to their lifelong Christian friends. For more information about the CWM Associate Ministry and how to enroll, write or visit us online.

THE LABOURER’S TERMS OF COVENANT is published monthly by Covenant Word Ministries (CWM), Inc., a non-profit organisation, Kampala, Uganda. ©2003 Covenant Word Ministries, Inc. All rights reserved. Mass reproduction in part or in whole without written permission is prohibited. Printing and distribution costs are paid for by donations from CWM Associates and Friends. We do not accept unsolicited articles because all THE LABOURER’S TERMS OF COVENANT study issues are preplanned. Editorial Assistants/Amanda Enyimu and Rita Abonyo.