

C THE LABOURER'S TERMS OF COVENANT

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LIFE-CHANGING CONVERSATIONS

by Joseph Enyinnu

In this era where meetings and discussions between people happen mostly on appointment, it is hard to come by rich and spontaneous conversations. It doesn't however take a genius to figure out that our relationships today are thirsting for these authentic conversations. Conversations are a powerful medium of influence. And that's because God intends for our conversations to be rich and life-changing.

Think about some of the New Testament scriptures that were foundational to your entry into the kingdom of God. For many of us, John 3:16 would be included in that list of scriptures: **"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life"** (KJV). Now consider the context in which Jesus issued this statement that has been life-changing to millions of people around the world over the years. He did so while having a conversation with one of the rulers of the Jews named Nicodemus. You can get a full account of their conversation by studying John 3:1-21.

Can you imagine the difference a single conversation with Jesus made in the life of Nicodemus? By the time Nicodemus was starting his conversation with Jesus, all he was was a Pharisee. But you can be certain he was a different man at the end of his conversation with Jesus. The Spirit of God used his conversation with Jesus to ignite something eternal in the heart and soul of Nicodemus. Through that single conversation, God moved Nicodemus from a religious mindset to a depth of spiritual reality he had never fathomed before. You can see that from some of the questions he put to Jesus during their conversations.

One of the things Jesus raised that stretched out Nicodemus' mind beyond its comprehension capacity was this statement: **"Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God"** (verse 3). Judging by the question that he got back to Jesus with, you can tell



that the concept of being born again was altogether so new to Nicodemus: **"How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?"** (Verse 4) His mind couldn't handle the truths that were coming forth from the lips of Jesus, and rightly so. It was not meant to. It's the human spirit that can digest spiritual truths and I believe Jesus was speaking to Nicodemus' spirit and not his mind. He wanted Nicodemus to walk away with revelation knowledge and not simply with information.

I am however so glad that Nicodemus asked that question. Who knows if John 3:16 would be with us today if he hadn't. It was in direct response to that question and another one which he asked in John 3:9 that Jesus spelt out the life-changing truths recorded in John 3: 5-21.

Another example of how a conversation can be life-changing is found in the scriptural account recorded in John 4. In verse 4 to 26, we see Jesus engaging in a

conversation, a woman who had come to draw water from a well. As a result of this single conversation, the woman who was on a mission to draw water walked away with a totally different mission – to preach Jesus Christ to her city. The life-changing conversation she had with Jesus instantly turned her into a powerful witness of the gospel. And because of her witness, the Bible records that: **“...many of the Samaritans of that city believed on [Jesus] for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did. So when the Samaritans were come unto him, they besought him that he would tarry with them: and he abode there two days. And many more believed because of his own word; And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.”** It is also through Jesus’ conversation with this woman that we have with us today the powerful truth recorded in John 4:24: **“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”**

These two examples of life-changing conversations from the Scriptures teach us a powerful principle of fellowship: liberty is the essence of fellowship. Yes, true fellowship is liberating. In fellowship – with God and His children – we find freedom from our burdens and extend the same to others. Speaking of Jesus, the Bible says **“In him was life; and the life was the light of men...That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.”** (John 1:4, 9). Elsewhere it says this about Him: **“For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us; That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.”** (1 John 1:2-3)

We see that it is through our fellowship with the Father and Son, that the life of God gains a flow within us. This fellowship is based on our conversations with God. It happens as we receive the thoughts, the mind and the heart of God through studying His Word and in moments of prayer and devotional worship. The same flow of life happens as we engage in word-based conversations with

fellow believers. As God’s life gains a flow in us, it produces the light of God within our conscience, which light delivers us from any and all forms of darkness. And that is what true liberty is about – freedom from the power and works of darkness. That is why **“...whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.”** (James 1:25). So, there is no better evidence of true fellowship with God and believers than a life at liberty – free from sin, fear, strife, sickness and poverty. The same is true for our families, churches and communities. | **CWM**

Where Do You Stand with God?

If you have never accepted Jesus as your personal Saviour and Lord, you are alienated from the life of God...you are without hope and without God in this world. (Ephesians 2: 12; 4:18) The good news however, is that you don’t have to continue that way. You can be reconciled with God and be 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.

Will your life have a lasting influence in the earth for the Kingdom of God? The answer depends on whether or not you are committed to the pursuit of lifelong discipleship relationships. Here at CWM, we refer to this set of relationships – the primary partakers of a growing lifelong discipleship relationship – as a Mission Cluster. Initiating believers into a lifestyle of building and multiplying these lifelong discipleship relationships is the reason for the existence of our Associate Ministry Programme.

Whether you are thinking of starting a Mission Cluster or strengthening an already existing one, you can always count on CWM as a partner because that’s what our Associate Ministry Programme is all about. To enroll for our Associate Ministry Programme, simply write the CWM Mission Team with information on the name and postal address of your Mission Cluster member(s). Annual subscription per cluster member is Ushs 18,000 only. Visit us online at www.cwm.or.ug to learn more about becoming a lasting influence for God.



MISSION CLUSTERS' FORUM



Vision Caster

Imparting the Art and Heart for Multiplying Kingdom Labourers



Did you know there is a strong and growing presence of believers in prisons across Uganda? Yes, the Spirit of God is raising an army of believers in these prisons; and the Kingdom of God is hiring labourers for this purpose. One of the duty stations for serving labourers is CWM's Prison Ministry Programme (PMP).

*Our PMP is a great opportunity for labourers to connect with believers in one of the many prisons across Uganda, and to be used of God to nurture faith and cast vision in line with Psalm 68:11 – **"The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it."** For Ushs 15,000 per year, you can guarantee a believer in a prison a regular supply of the faith-building teachings that feature in the Labourer's Terms of Covenant monthly study issue.*

To register to participate in CWM's Prison Ministry Programme, contact us at the address below with details of your choice prison and the visiting frequency of your preference. For information on Terms and Conditions of service, see Matthew 6:33 and 9:35-38.

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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 23 of these prisons across 14 districts: Kampala (4), Wakiso (3), Jinja (3), Mukono (1), Kayunga (1), Masaka (1), Mbarara (3), Ibanda (1), Nakasongola (1), Kumi (1), Soroti (1), Mubende (1), Lira (1) and Abim (1).

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

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- 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.