

# C THE LABOURER'S TERMS OF COVENANT

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## OVERCOMING THE MENTALITY OF SCARCITY

*By Joseph Enyima*

**“Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.”** (Revelations 3:20). This scripture, perhaps more than any other, speaks so clearly about the kind of relationship God is looking for with us as His children. It lets us know that God is keen to fellowship with His children. And He desires for us also to become keen about our fellowship with Him.

Fellowship is what sets apart a true family relationship from any other. Family speaks of relationships that are intimate and personal. That is the kind of relationship that was on God’s heart and mind when He set out to create man. He wanted a freewill agent of His own kind with whom He could share His heart and mind with. **“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”** (Genesis 1:26-27).

Fellowship was not only at the centre of God’s plan of creation. It was also at the centre of His plan of redemption and it still is. God did not send Jesus on earth just to add the number of people in His kingdom. The Great Commission is not a project of numbers. We are not winning people into the kingdom of God for the sake of numbers. We are in the Great Commission for the purpose of relationship and fellowship. That is what Jesus came for: to restore the broken fellowship that man had with God. The Bible says, **“God is faithful, by whom you were called unto the fellowship of his son Jesus Christ our Lord.”** (1 Corinthians 1:9)

Many believers however read Revelations 3:20 and their immediate conclusion is that it is talking to sinners. How many times have you heard a believer quoting Revelations 3:20 to a sinner in reference to their need to confess Jesus as Lord and Saviour? Revelations 3:20 is addressed to saints not sinners. All you have to do to

know that is go back up to verse 14 of the same chapter. The failure to recognize fellowship as the essence of our relationship with God is the number one reason for our substandard living as believers. Any relationship that is short of fellowship ends up lacking in intimacy. And where there is no intimacy confidence is low. It takes confidence in our identity as children of God for us to walk in the fullness of God, the Father. Our Father is Jehovah Jireh – the Lord Who will see to it that my every need is met. He thinks and lives abundance. And so should we as His children!

It however takes being confident in our sonship for us to get comfortable with having and living in more than enough. When you understand that you are a child of God and all the resources of God are at your disposal by virtue of your sonship, your outlook in life changes. You stop having a toiling mindset and you instead start having a manager’s mindset. You become rested because you realize that all that you need is already yours – you are a member of the family.

Without intimacy with God however, you gradually lose awareness of your position as a child of God. You instead start developing a servant’s mentality. And as long as we think and behave like we have to qualify for or earn everything we receive from God, the consciousness of limitation will always dominate our lives. And if we entertain the consciousness of limitation long enough, it turns into a fear of lack. Before we know it, poverty will be at our door step **“...like a robber or one who travels [with slowly but surely approaching steps] and your want like an armed man [making you helpless]”** (Proverbs 6:11, The Amplified Bible)

Consider what Jesus said to His disciples in John 15:15: **“No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have**

**made known to you.”** (NJKV) Jesus was in effect awakening the conscience of His disciples to a new order in His relationship with them. He was alerting them that the time had come for a mindset shift in their relationship; a shift from a duty-based mentality to a fellowship-oriented mentality. The dictionary defines a friend as “one who is attached to another by affection; one who entertains for another sentiments of esteem, respect and affection, which lead him to desire his company, and to seek to promote his happiness and prosperity”. Jesus was notifying His disciples that their fellowship had developed to a level where He was free to disclose to them His Father’s secrets. He was letting them know they were now part of His inner circle. As disciples of Jesus, we too need to know this about our relationship with God. If we do, we shall understand that as believers, we serve God not because we are His servants but because we honour Him as our Father.

The child-of-God consciousness that arises from our fellowship with God is far reaching in its impact on our lives than many believers know. Part of that impact happens through our prayer life. The Bible says, “**...The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.**” (James 5:16). Another Bible translation says it this way: “**...The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working].**” Imagine being able to generate the kind of power that can fix the things that are out of order in your life. The power to make wise and sound decisions; power to keep your relationships strong and healthy; power to heal your body and keep it healthy; power to abound financially and materially; power to be a mighty witness for God in your generation. Wouldn’t that be a wonderful position to be in? That is the position God wants us in and according to James 5:16, such power flows from a prayer life that is effective and fervent.

What do you suppose makes a believer’s (or righteous man’s) prayer effective and fervent? It is intimacy. True prayer is the highest form of intimacy there is. You become intimate with the One to Whom you pray. You also become intimate with those for whom you pray. True prayer is something that is very personal. It is motivated by affection and confidence as opposed to fear, selfishness, hypocrisy or doubt.

Yes, we can be taught and instructed on HOW to pray effectively. But it takes more than information to pray forth the dynamic-working power of God. It takes being personal with the One to Whom we are praying and being persuaded in our knowledge of Him. Such persuasion comes through the daily discipline of keeping company with God – attending to the Scriptures,

listening to and following after the witness of the Holy Spirit in our spirits, praying out the will of God in the earth, delighting in God with songs of praise, worship and even dance.

It is this daily discipline of keeping company with God that we refer to as fellowship with God. Fellowship with God is the only guaranteed way of developing a prosperous mindset without becoming covetous or lustful. The mentality of more than enough safely breeds and thrives in an environment of fellowship with God. Any other approach to developing a more-than-enough mentality only leads you to lust. That is why human efforts to prosper outside of God simply results in more heartache and trouble than men can handle: **“Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.”** (James 4:1-3, NKJV). | **CWM**

## 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 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

April 2011 is the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Labourer's Terms of Covenant (LTOC) Study Issue. For the CWM Mission Team here at Covenant Word Ministries, this 10<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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:

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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 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](http://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.

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