

"Black is Not Synonymous with Lack." David Oyedepo

BUSINESS SECRETS OF DAVID OYEDEPO

**HOW FROM
POVERTY
HE BECAME THE
RICHEST PASTOR
ON THE
EARTH-YOU
TOO CAN!**



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Business Secrets of David Oyedepo

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DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to the glory of God to God's servant, Dr. David Oyedepo for teaching me that the kingdom of God is the business of our Father.

INTRODUCTION

Bishop David Oyedepo is the richest pastor on the earth. He made it. I have heard people say God helped him. Yes, God did. But does it mean he is the only one God picked to help? It is God's grace others said. That's true. But he is wise and did not waste the grace like others are doing. Still, others say he is lucky. My question is, why is he the only one that is that lucky?

The fact is that he created his luck to be the richest pastor on earth; he prepared himself before the Lord. Becoming rich is not rocket science. There is no chance or probability in it. It is based on principles.

Anyone who follows those principles will become rich too.

Did he accomplish this feat as a result of miracles? No. it was based on following basic rules.

In 1998, God sent me to Living Faith Church with the express instruction, “Go and learn from My servant Bishop David Oyedepo.” Before then, I was not a member of any Church.

So I arose that Sunday morning and went to Church in Yola, Adamawa state of Nigeria. I gave my life to God in my room after God's presence filled the room as a result of His visitation. I had been under the ministry of Lester Sumrall for twenty months before I was given the assignment to go and learn from Oyedepo.

I served in Living Faith Church in all capacity required of me except as a pastor. I was conscious of the fact that I was sent to learn lessons which I will use some day.

God made sure I never really came close to Bishop David Oyedepo in all the days of my service. I tried everything but was not lead to do that. There is a reason for this.

Bishop Oyedepo is a very charismatic and passionate person. When you are around him, his charisma will make you a disciple of his rather than focus on your assignment, you will end up focusing on his to please him. Only very few people in the history of the world has such passion and majority of them not only end up rich but also changed the world.

He will be quick to tell you that God made him rich. I believe so. To which I ask,

why is it that God made only him rich? I bet God loves everyone equally.

One day I heard him say that, God built Faith Tabernacle and Covenant University. I reasoned that if God did it, I am sure He must want every one of His children to have same. No one is special in the sight of God.

I believe one of the reasons God assigned me the task of writing this book is because he has taught me a lot about principles and sieve through all the religious stuff and come up with the principles that bishop Oyedepo had put to work and became rich.

The truth is that everyone can become as rich, if not richer than him if they would only know these principles and apply them.

I have been burdened by the rate of poverty in the body of Christ. And this book is a product of that burden. God wants every Christian to be rich. Believers should be the richest class of people on earth, if only they will apply the principles God has set in His word.

Becoming rich is not a product of chance, if not you will lose it by chance. Neither do people become the richest on earth through miracles or accident. Miracles will never make you perpetually rich but principles will.

Believers the world over have been given all it takes to become rich. But how many people knows that?

Bishop Oyedepo became rich because he partnered with God and put to work the principles of God. In this book you will learn the ten principles he put to work that made him rich.

My aim in this book is not to celebrate Bishop Oyedepo so that you won't think it was part of his call but to challenge and motivate you to apply those same principles. You too can be rich. If Bishop Oyedepo can do it, you too can.

He is not more special to God than you. He only knows what you don't know and does what you would not want to do. You are equal in the eyes of God. Just as he partnered with God to be rich, so can you also partner with God to be rich.

God did not send Jesus to elevate poverty to a spiritual status. He sent Him to make you rich and one of the richest on earth. As far as your eyes can see, God will make you. It all depends on you not Him.

“The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow to it.” Prov

10:22

“... I (Jesus) have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” John 10:10

Then Peter opened his mouth and said: “In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is acceptable by Him. Acts 10:34-35

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all that call upon Him. Rom 10:12

Jesus did not come to spread poverty but to make you rich so that you can spread the fragrance of heaven on earth. Riches and abundance are the fragrance of heaven.

By having this book in your hand, you have achieved half of what it requires to be rich. The next step is to apply all that you will read in this book. Applying principles will make you rich.

Your assignment on earth therefore is to partner with God to spread His riches and abundance to all the families of the earth.

“The power to get wealth is only released on the platform of covenant...By covenant I mean that God has given guidelines on how to enjoy prosperity.. A covenant is like a contract. It involves two people- God and you. God the covenantor is the originator of the deal, and you are the beneficiary after your part of the deal is fulfilled.” David Oyedepo

CHAPTER ONE

Possess Abundance Mentality

Covenant Principle:

“But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.” 2 Cor 9:6-8

David O. Oyedepo's Sayings:

“It was the largeness of their hearts that afford God the opportunity of enlarging their coasts. They were constantly thinking of whom next to bless, or what to do that would further bless humanity. And as they thought so, God kept backing them up to actualize their dreams.”

The number one secret of Bishop Oyedepo's success is his abundance mentality; his largeness of heart. He sees everything as abundantly provided by God.

While some people see things as being scarce, and as a result don't want to share what they have, he sees everything in abundance and shares what he has.

Most people are deeply programmed with scarcity. They think scarcity all the time. They see life as having only so much and that once one have, others may not necessarily have much.

To them life is like a pie and if someone were to get a big piece of it, it would mean less for everyone else. Such people have a difficult time sharing things with others. All they want therefore, is to take from people.

Such people also have a hard time being genuinely happy for the success of other people. They become envious when others share what has happened to them.

People with scarcity mentality don't really plan long term. All they think about is

now, today and how they can help themselves amass wealth even at the expense of what they are called to do.

Abundance mentality flows out of a deep inner sense of gratitude and self-worth. It believes that God created everything in abundance and everyone can be rich without necessarily and deliberately keeping others in lack.

The beginning of riches is a function of the kind of mindset you possess. In the society where we live, it is really hard for one to possess such mindset; when everyone looks to the government for everything.

Oyedepo came into the scene believing that “black is not synonymous with lack”, meaning that everything was created by God in abundance therefore, people do not have the right to live in lack and poverty.

This is a paradigm shift for a lot of people. At that time when he began his ministry, people have the belief that poverty is really the badge of honor Christians put on everywhere they go.

That was a poor representation of the gospel. Even though he was laughed at when he began to preach about the abundance of God, he kept at it not minding what people were saying.

If he had not possessed the abundance mentality he would have given up under that pressure. He basically created the right perspective about God making people rich.

Healthy Self-worth

Abundance mentality begins with feeding your self-worth. When you have a healthy self-worth, you will be confident about what you believe even if the whole world is against you.

Oyedepo's self-worth is not really based on his educational attainment nor is it attached to his family name. It was sourced from his knowledge of God and what God assigned him to accomplish.

Your self-esteem is how well you think of yourself compared to others. People with low self-esteem think they are not valuable, and that everyone is better than them. This will result in decreased self confidence, being scared to try new things and blaming others for your problems and circumstance.

To build a healthy self-worth you will need to know your creator, why He

created you and whether He can stand on His word.

One of the revelations Oyedepo had earlier is that God will stand on whatever He promised. He believed God so much that he left all to pursue God's assignment for his life not minding what people were saying.

Does he ever entertain the thoughts that he may fail? I am not sure. He never doubted God. He took God at His word. He believed God totally and as a proof of his faith in God, he threw himself and totally abandons himself to God.

You don't find that kind of devotion among young ministers today. Everyone wants to be rich, but most of them don't have that healthy self-esteem to stand through thick and thin till what God has promised them come to pass.

When people doubt God and His ability to fulfill what He has promised, they invariably doubt themselves. That's why everyone needs to know who they are in Christ before stepping out into ministry. There are lots of people in ministry who know next to nothing about God and who they are in Christ.

You can never be rich doing something else that God has not called you to do. Your assignment is your wealthy place. Your call is your ticket to a rich lifestyle.

A child who believes his father will catch him when he jumps, will jump even when the father is not looking and then call on the father to catch him. This child has trust in his father's ability to always keep his word. That is the case with Oyedepo. He trust God will always stand by His word no matter what.

God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good? Numbers 23:19

Thus God determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. Heb 6:17-18.

Like Abraham, he counted God as faithful, as such will perform what He had promise in His word.

All you need is for God to count you worthy and the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ has established that fact. Once you are sure of this, then you know without doubt that God will fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the

work of faith with power.

Stand Forever On the Word

The word of God is the master key to abundant mindset and living. The word is where Oyedepo's prosperity began. If you understand this, you will understand everything about him.

To him, the Bible is God speaking to him in this time and not a story book that he has to read to preach. He sees the Bible as God's principles to a better life.

His understanding is that God is sharing the secrets He used to create a super wealthy heaven and that all each one of us has to do is to believe the word.

It was from that I develop a new perspective about the word. He believes very strongly that God will never do anything outside of His word. His word is His bond.

He doesn't read the Bible like most Christians do for the sake of reading. He reads the Bible in search of scriptures through which he can get direction for what he is doing.

When I joined the Church then, I learnt that everything they do must have series of scriptures backing them. If you have the word then you have the backing of God.

All you need in life to live abundantly is packaged in the word of God. The word of God is given to you to make your life abundantly blessed.

The word is the seed on which everything good grows and prosperity is good. Many people think a job or a business is their source of prosperity, but he believes the word of God is his sole source.

While other people pray their desire and worries, he prays the word. This is based on God's promise that His word will never return back to Him without accomplishing the reason why He sent it.

David Oyedepo is rich because of the word of God. He delights and meditates on the word of God and as a result, whatever he does prospers. That gives him the God touch which is far greater than the Midas touch (Ps1:1-3).

Through meditating on the word of God, he gets revelations. He said, "Every true wealth is a product of the revelation of the covenant of abundance." The word of God comes from the abundant thoughts of God. As such when you

begin to think of it you will end up having your mentality expanded and enlarged.

With his understanding of the parable of the sower, he labors every day to get the word into his heart. While others are busy pursuing money, he is in one place laboring in the word. He eats the word. The word brought him into a lifestyle of abundance and victory.

As a result of meditating and promoting the word, he comes upon secrets to become rich. The word speaks to him in his sleep and directs him on what to do by the day.

This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous and have good success. Jos 1:8.

Therefore keep the words of this covenant, and do them that you may prosper in all that you do. Deu 29:9.

Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day. You, through your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; for they are ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, for Your testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the ancients, because I keep Your precepts. Ps 119:97-100.

“So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.” Acts 20:32.

For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it. Heb 4:2.

His profit comes from putting God's word to use.

Talk Big

If there is anything faith does, is that it talks big and acts big. Whatever you are saying, you will end up having. Because what you say always come out of what you have been thinking or who you are.

Dr Oyedepo has always declared based on his covenant with God that he is going to be one of the richest men on earth. What he was doing basically was

framing or constructing what he wants to have.

He did not start speaking like that when he became rich. No! He spoke it even when “poverty was his next door neighbor.” He used his words to construct for himself the kind of life he desired and deserved as the son and righteousness of God.

You will only have what you believe and say, and not just saying it once but keep on saying it. No matter how circumstance looks, you must continually and consistently speak the word of God.

Christians, who are subjected to the economy of this earth, think and speak what they see on earth. As such they are constrained and limited by the lack on earth. They become blind to the abundance of God. But people, who speak the word of God, operate above the economy of the earth. They are under the abundance of heaven.

Your life experiences can never go above your confession. Your major work as a kingdom citizen is to think and speak the word of God. That is the way God has made for you to experience the abundance of heaven on earth.

No matter what anyone thinks or says, Oyedepo declares prosperity loudly and boldly. As a result, he is having what he has. You too can. Prosperity is tied to what you say.

If you find yourself speaking the circumstances around you, understand that is what you have faith in and that will be your reality. No matter the circumstance, Oyedepo holds fast to his confession of faith without wavering, knowing full well that it doesn't take time, it only takes faith in God to make things happen.

Early in the ministry, he instructed the accountant never to say there is no money or money is finished. The penalty for saying that is sack. He was enforcing the principle in the organization. You produce abundance or lack by the words you speak continuously.

A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth. Prov 12:14

“For every tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.” Luke 6:44-45

“He who comes from above is above all; he who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all.” John 3:31

To do this you must take time to meditate on the word and saturate your mind with God’s thoughts concerning you, then and only then will your words become a force that will create heaven on earth for you.

Praying in Tongues

Many pray in tongues for the fun of it and to show their spirituality. Unlike them, Oyedepo prays in tongues to connect to the well spring of God's wisdom and to strengthen his faith.

I once had to ask a pastor in Living Faith how he prays. At that time I came to the understanding that everything anyone does on earth for God must be based on prayers. The pastor I asked said he also heard that he prays more in tongues. I had to dig deeper to know why he does this.

He elevates his spirit to download blue prints from the Holy Spirit on how to go about making impact on earth.

Bishop David Abioye shared a story of how they needed something done and immediately Oyedepo heard about it, he quickly began to pray in tongues and within a short time he got the solution they needed.

His secret is that, he is strategic about everything he does. If it doesn't advance him towards the achievement of his goals, he drops it.

The thing you need to understand is that praying in tongues will not help you that much if your mind is not developed. You need to properly understand what you receive from God in your spirit in order to implement it on earth. It will take a well-developed mind to interpret the wisdom of God rightly.

However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love him.” But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit

who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.” 1Cor2:6-10, 12.

For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries. But he who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the Church. 1 Cor 14:2, 4.

He builds up his mentality abundantly by speaking in tongues. He doesn't just do it for power. He knows very well that whoever has the wisdom of God and implements it will be rich. The wisdom of God is the principal tool God employs to prosper people.

What is the use of wisdom when you cannot use it to prosper? David Oyedepo puts the wisdom he gets to work always. He seizes wisdom and put it to maximum use.

It Takes Discipline

Many people know all of these, but only very few people do them. I wondered. But then I discovered that it has everything to do with the virtues of discipline which many lack.

Why is it that in spite of all people know and have gleaned from the experiences of others, do they wonder somewhat aimlessly settling for a lesser life than what they could have accomplished.

Lack of discipline in applying all that they know is their major challenge.

Discipline is the determination to act. The rewards of discipline lies in the future and not in the present and since people are looking for instant gratification, discipline is not one of the virtues they seek to develop in their lives.

If Oyedepo had decided that becoming the richest pastor in the world will take a long time why don't I try something else, no one would have heard of him today.

He stayed with what he loves doing and turned it into a money generating machine.

Discipline must become your full time employment. If you are disciplined in one area and then undisciplined in another, that area of indiscipline will produce habits that will end up making you indiscipline in all areas of your life.

When you are disciplined you train your mind to think what you want it to think,

your emotion to feel and believe what you want it to believe and your will to do what you wants it to do at the time it needs to be done.

For every disciplined effort there is a multiple reward. It takes discipline to read a book, develop your mind, and consistently pray in tongues and to do all that you need to do to get your objectives.

CHAPTER TWO

Engage in Creative Thinking

Covenant Principle

And have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him. Col 3:10

David Oyedepo's Sayings

“No man can work out what he has not thought out. It is brain work that produces great works.”

Everything you can see with your eyes, touch with your hands, feel with your skin and smell, were created by thoughts: either the thoughts of God or man.

Most people are still really surprised that God thinks. He does. Thinking is the main occupation of spirits. It is the only way to create things.

God's desire is to create heaven on earth and to achieve that He had to create a man who can reason with Him. What this means is that, God looks for a man who will entertain His thoughts.

He looked at all His creation and saw that there was no creature that has the capacity to think His thoughts, so He created man in His own image and likeness. That is, man now has the mental capacity and capability to think like God.

God knows that whatever you think about continually you will end up creating. How does He know this? Not because He is God, but because He created and creates everything from His thoughts.

You can use your mind to create anything you want. In actual sense, all that you have around you presently are the products of your capacity to think.

People who are poor are not so because they lack money or don't have a job that pays them well. They are simply poor because that is what they choose to create. By thinking about lack, want and poverty, they consequently are creating them.

If you don't know this you will blame God or someone else for not being rich. If you can think abundance you will end up abundantly blessed and enriched.

Many people still believe that if you can pray and fast then you will become rich. I am not doubting the power of fasting and prayers. But their work is basically to cast out devils. It is one thing to cast out the devil of poverty, and yet another thing to bring in the angel of abundance and prosperity.

What you think about often will come about in your life. You are created in the image and likeness of God, the Master Creator so that you can be a creator on earth.

After God concluded His creative work, He then created a man with a living soul not a dead soul. He didn't create man before but after He had created everything. Then He charged man with the task of continuous creation.

Man was now to receive blueprints from God through His Spirit and then dwell or think of them in using his mind. As he continues to think of those blueprints, they will become so real to him that within a short time they will become a reality on earth.

I believe strongly that everything you see on earth was downloaded from heaven when man began to accept and think about the thoughts of God. The table, car, TV, video, phones, and planes and so on, are all products that are being used in heaven.

All we have to do then to create abundance on earth, is to begin to align our thoughts to that of God.

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him: and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. "For My thoughts are not your thoughts; nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it." Isaiah 55:7-11.

"A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil; for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks." Luke 6:45

Wherever you see evil and wickedness happening, just know that the people in

that area are simply thinking the thoughts of the devil. They may be Christians and prayerful too, but rather than use their minds to create good, they use it to create evil.

This is because they are ignorant of the principles with which God created the whole earth. As such they allow the devil to hold their minds to do his will. Ignorance of this principle has allowed the devil to expand hell on earth.

Prayer alone wouldn't make a nation better if not, Nigeria would have been one of the richest and developed nations on earth. The kind of nation you have is based on the kind of thoughts the people within it are thinking.

But David Oyedepo is not ignorant of this principle. He therefore disciplines his mind to only think about what he wants and whatever he sees in the word of God is exactly what he wants.

When he saw that God promised to make his people richer, he took that promise and made it his thoughts. He knows that prayers won't cut it. He can pray from now till eternity comes for God to make him rich and that won't happen in his life time.

So he embraced the principle of creation: whatever you want in your life think about it as often as you can and consistently and you will have it in your life.

Sowing And Reaping

This is also called the law of cause and effect or seed time and harvest. This is one cardinal law that controls everything in the kingdom of God and also on the earth.

We live in a world governed by principles or seeds, not by chance. People don't just have riches fall down on their laps this side of eternity. Even if it does, if it's not a harvest from a seed they have sown, they will lose it all.

My task in this book is to reveal to you as God has taught me the secrets that Oyedepo put to work that resulted in him becoming the richest pastor on earth.

He did not become rich by accident and neither was it as a result of luck. It is a harvest based on seeds he has sown.

Poverty and riches are harvests that result from what was sown. When he learned about this principle he became intentional about the kind of seeds he plants.

Jesus in the parable of the sower (the mother of all parables), revealed to us that

the land or soil we are to plant into is our heart, while the seed are words.

Words therefore are the raw materials for creation on earth. Either you are creating poverty or riches, lack or abundance, it all stems from the kind of words you are exposing yourself to. Poor people expose themselves to poverty riddled words while rich people expose themselves to prosperity words.

The choice is yours to make. No one will force you to think without your consent. You choose the kind of words you think about. It is your choice to make because it is an internal process.

This is why I said people don't become rich by giving money but rather they become rich by thinking rich thoughts. It is not as a man gives so he becomes, but as a man thinks so he becomes. I always add that rich people give.

Prosperity is an effect that proceeds from certain, specific causes. In this case the causes are the words you decide to think about. Your thoughts are the primary creative forces of your riches. You become as wealthy and rich as your thoughts are.

No matter how much a poor person gives to get rich, who lay hands on him and anointed him with oil, if he continues to think of poverty he will remain poor. God will never break His principles for anyone. To break one principle will mean to break all the principles that governs the earth and that will only result in chaos.

If you don't like what you are reaping, all you have to do then is to change the words you are thinking about. At times this may require you changing friends and environment. When you change your thinking, you will change your financial status.

This is the one reason why the rich people avoid the poor. Poverty thinking can be contagious. Remember it is a seed that is planted in your heart through your thoughts.

It is not the economy of your nation that determines your condition, but the state of your mind and the status of your thoughts. It is not what happens in the world that determines your financial status, but what is happening within you.

This is the reason Oyedepo reads a lot and also select people that associates with him. He is protecting his garden from weeds. Weeds have a nasty habit of growing without your permission and notification.

You use your mouth to plant the right words which is the seed of what you want to harvest in your mind. Don't be deceived by any get-rich quick scam. You will only be rich if you take the time to plant words of prosperity. Beware of people you associate with, they can influence you subtly to plant their kind of seed. Birds with the same thoughts and seeds flock together.

..My tongue is the pen of a ready writer. Ps 45:1

Let not mercy and truth forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart, and so find favor and high esteem in the sight of God and man. Prov3:3-4

And He said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. For the earth yield crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head. But when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come." Mark 4:26-29

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. Gal 6:7

Your mind is never in neutral. It is thinking either good or evil, lack or abundance, poverty or prosperity. Oyedepo disciplines and trains his mind every day to think what he wants to create.

That doesn't mean that contrary and negative thoughts don't come to him. They do. But unlike many he is so busy that he doesn't accept such kind of thoughts. He has gained mastery over his mind and uses it to create the will of God.

Renew Your Mind

The same principle of creation works for both a Christian and a non-Christian. We have the same brain. The brain Christians have is not different from that of the non-Christians. That's why we are humans.

I used to wonder why Christians are poor and non-Christians are rich. I knew it in me that there was something about becoming rich that most people don't subscribe to, and that is the renewal of the mind.

I kind of call it the make over or overhauling of your thought process. Study biographies and autobiographies and you will discover that people become rich when they completely overhaul their thought process.

You need to know that Oyedepo began exposing his mind to prosperous thoughts long before he started ministry. But he completely overhauled it when he read the law of prosperity by Kenneth Copeland and God's will is prosperity by Gloria Copeland. What he got from those books completely renewed his mind about prosperity.

These were not the only books that he read on prosperity. He still reads to keep his mind from carbonizing. Those books and the Bible did it for him.

Don't allow your mind to become conformable and conform to a certain kind of thought that is not in line with the will of God. That it sound good to the ear doesn't mean it is the word of God. You have to check to make sure it aligns with the word of God.

People are saying a lot of things out there that are just not true. Some of those words come out of their experiences which are far below the standard of God. The word of God should be your standard to judge every saying.

God's will for you is prosperity, therefore any saying that celebrates poverty is below the standard of God. Your task is to overhaul your mind so that it can conform to the standard and will of God. This work, of course and the results are not always instant.

If there is anything Oyedepo did and continues to do is to make sure that his mind is conformed to the standard of God and being a very passionate and disciplined person, anything that will bring his mind below that standard is done away with quickly.

He is so good at cutting away from people who think below God's standard that they accused him of using and dumping people. All he is doing is protecting his mind. He knows that the people you associate with have a greater tendency to influence the standard you are conformed to.

People's influence is subtle. You won't know when they would have influenced you to begin to think far below your potential. But when your mind is conformed to the standard of God, your potential becomes God's potential.

I believe Oyedepo reviews his friendship regularly by asking himself: who am I around? What are they doing to me? What have they got me reading? What have they got me saying? Where do they have me going? What do they have me thinking? And, most importantly, what do they have me becoming? Then he will evaluate it by asking the big question: Is that okay? If it's not okay, he cuts off

summarily from such person. But others continue to tag along with the friendship and end up performing below their potential.

Your performance and production in life is the average of five people you associate with.

“Do not be deceived: “Evil company corrupts good habits.” 1 Cor 15:33

The glory of God is the standard and full potential of God. People operating below that standard will draw you down to it. In a way, it is really sin to operate below your God given potential.

Since all have sinned and are falling short of the honor and glory which God bestows and receives. Rom 3:23 AMP.

When your mind conforms to the standard of God you will operate at your full potential. You achieve that by exclusively meditating on the word of God. When you are conformed to the standard of God, everything you do prospers.

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither and whatever he does shall prosper. Ps 1:1-3.

Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its eternal, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you]. Rom 12:2 AMP.

Oyedepo keeps updating his mind to conform to the perfect standard of God that is why he is becoming as rich as God, his Father.

Imagine Yourself Rich

And the Lord said, “Behold the people is one, and they have all one language, and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do.” Gen 11:6.

Imagination is powerful. Whatever you can see on your inside will invariably manifest on your outside. Your outer world is a reflection of your inner world and corresponds to your imagination.

Oyedepo doesn't imagine himself poor. He imagines himself rich. How do I know? You will always talk about how you imagine yourself to be. And he has always said he is going to be one of the richest men on earth.

He sees it in the word of God as a standard God has set. So he imagines himself in the light of what the word of God says he is and he speaks about it forcefully and passionately.

Nothing can come into your life without you imagining it. You have to be intentional about what you are imagining. You have to control yourself to imagine a rich you.

People become rich because they first imagine themselves rich. You can only become and have what you can imagine and no more. And whatever your dominant imagination is, if you say it you will end up having it.

There is only one thing you can control and that is your imagination. It is the world of your creation that ends up becoming the world you live and experience.

By imagining and talking about what you want constantly, and refusing to imagine or talk about what you don't want, you become the architect of your destiny. You create your world.

Oyedepo uses this principle to create a rich world for himself.

Making Your Prosperous

Nothing depicts this like what the Bible said in Gen26:12-14 about Isaac. It said, "Then Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold: and the Lord blessed him. The man began to prosper, and continued prospering until he became very prosperous; for he had possessions of flocks and possessions of herds and a great number of servants. So the Philistines envied him."

This could only happen because he made his way prosperous. Oyedepo has always said that he doesn't read the word of God but eats it. It means, he meditates on the word and by so doing he makes his way prosperous.

As long as you are thinking and talking the word of God, you will be making a way for those things to come your way. God will go to any length to make a way so that those things come your way.

What most people do is that in as much as they wish to be rich, they think and talk about poverty and lack. No wonder they end up having and experiencing it.

If you are prepared to be rich then be ready to think and talk prosperity always. Whatever you think and talk about frequently will become the prophecy that gets fulfilled in your life.

Think possibility

Money or riches are not the product of work; they are the product of thoughts. Anyone who gets money by working is an employee and is dominated by money, but he that makes money by his thoughts is the Lord of money.

Whatever you can think about continuously will come about in your life. David Oyedepo thinks everything is possible no matter how bad, backward and challenging the circumstance is. He believes that all things are achievable once it can be thought of. This is why he thinks possibility and solution.

To him a problem is only a problem because the solution has not been found. And once the solution is found, it is no longer a problem. He doubts nothing.

In 1999, I heard a story about how he puts this to work. As they were building Faith Tabernacle a heavy duty vehicle needed to work on the inside of the building, the only problem was that it was taller than the door way. The option available was to break the passage way to move it in and out. As the workers were thinking about how to go about it, he came around looked at the vehicle and looked at the passage way, then he told them to deflate the tires of the vehicle and push it in and repeat same thing when they are taking it out. It worked perfectly.

When others are saying something is impossible, to him they are only impossible because people refuse to think. He says, "Every man's mountain is his ignorance."

To him if you can think it, you will definitely bring it to pass. And if someone can do anything anywhere in the world, it can be done by anyone anywhere who can think it possible and believe it.

Whatever is big for your mind will be impossible in your life. If you don't think it possible, you will always see it as impossible. The mind carries the potential to create your world but if you don't put it to work, it will refuse to work.

What most people see as impossible is only impossible because their mind can't think it. Everything you will do, produce and achieve on earth must come out of your mind. If you are not developing your mind, you will end up not producing

the things God tells you.

God's thoughts are very big, bigger than anything you can ever think of. When God tells you something or gives you an assignment, He expects you to develop your mind to reach the capacity of someone who can do it.

God told Oyedepo to build a 50, 000 seater auditorium that will be filled with people in 1983. He didn't immediately start building. He knew God's thoughts revealed to man is a vision. And that vision is for a time because it calls for the growth and development of your mind.

The auditorium finally became ready in 1999 and made the Guinness Book of Record. Also it took a year to build. That's the power of possibility thinking. Other pastors are struggling and taking years to build 100-500 seated auditorium. He did it without stress because he took the time to grow his mind to think like God.

God calls people who think impossibility thoughts as wicked. They are wicked because they are either lazy or reluctant deliberately to develop their minds.

When you hear from God, a demand is placed on you to develop your mind, not to go about town celebrating what God has told you. The time of waiting for what God has told you to come to pass is the time for mental and capacity development.

God promised the Israelites that He will give them a good and great land. He then instructed Moses to send some people to spy out the land. They went and returned. Ten out of the twelve said it is impossible, but Caleb and Joshua said it is very much possible. The difference is that Caleb and Joshua are used to staying and relating with God.

Whoever you relate and associate with, your mind will either develops or deforms. So be careful who you associate with. There is no how you can relate with God frequently that your mind will not develop to reach His. And when it does, you will hear and do things that are way out of this world and that will astound everyone.

Oyedepo saw in the word of God how Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David and Solomon dominated the world with their wealth. He knew that God doesn't respect them more than him. So he sought God more to develop his mental capacity to equate to that of God. As his mind develops, so also does his riches increases till he became the head and not the tail, above only and not beneath.

“Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, “Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.” But the men who had gone up with him said, “We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we.” Number 13:30-31.

But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; and they spoke to all the congregations of the children of Israel, saying “The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. “If the Lord delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, 'a land which flows with milk and honey. Only do not rebel against the Lord, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the Lord is with us. Do not fear them. The Lord said: “I have pardoned, according to your word; “but truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord- because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded my voice, they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it. But My servant Caleb, because he has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendant shall inherit it.” Num 14:6-9, 20-24.

You can only think possibility thoughts to the extent that you associate and relate with God. When you do, you will imagine the things God thinks of and they will become possible and real on earth. If you can think, believe and act on it, it's possible. Wealth starts from your thoughts and not your prayers.

CHAPTER THREE

Get Financially Educated

Covenant Principle

“He who is faithful in a very little [thing] is faithful also in much, and he who is dishonest and unjust in a very little [thing] is dishonest and unjust also in much. Therefore if you have not been faithful in the [case of] unrighteous mammon (deceitful riches, money, possessions) who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not proved faithful in that which belongs to another [whether God or man], who will give you that which is your own [that is the true riches]? No servant is able to serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will stand by and be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (riches, or anything in which you trust and on which you rely)” Luke16:10-13 AMP

David O. Oyedepo’s Sayings

“For everyone that will care to serve God today, the whole world will see the difference tomorrow. God says He is going to distinguish those who serve Him. He is saying; “If you serve Me, money will serve you. If you serve money, mourning will become your companion.” Money without God makes mourners. God lift you, He lift you to honor you. When God becomes the supplier of the money in your hands, you will remain the envy of the world around you.”

Whatever you serve, that becomes your master. Money is a very bad master. People who make money their masters are really financially ignorant.

You are not really free until you gain knowledge about money and finances. There is a truth about money and knowing that truth will set you free. Knowing the truth and applying it is what financial education is all about.

Ignorance is the greatest jailer of destinies. What you don't know cannot help you. You can never go higher or have more than you know and apply.

Financial education is not taught in schools and in most homes people are only taught poverty education. If most parents know about money, they will be free

from struggling.

Anyone who works for money lacks knowledge and that person will continue to struggle when it comes to money.

Money doesn't make people rich. Knowledge sets them free from poverty to strive towards abundance.

That someone receives a large amount as salary doesn't mean he is rich. The only time you will know if a person is rich is, when he loses his money and all he is left with is his knowledge of ignorance.

Then God said to Solomon: "Because this was in your heart, and you have not asked riches or wealth or honor or the life of your enemies, nor have you asked for long life- but have asked wisdom and knowledge for yourself, that you may judge My people over whom I have made you king- wisdom and knowledge are granted you; and I will give riches and wealth and honor, as such none of the kings have had who were before you, nor shall any after you have the like." 2 chron 1:11-12.

By knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches. Prov 24:4.

Therefore My people have gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge; their honorable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst. Isaiah 5:13.

If you want to prosper you need to pursue knowledge and not money. Unfortunately people who desire to be rich would rather spend their time pursuing money than seek knowing.

Even though Oyedepo had heard and preached about prosperity, he knew deep within him that he was still ignorant of it. Yes he knew some things about money but have no revelation of prosperity and he desires to be rich.

So unlike many who may have taken a job to work for money, he went in search of knowledge that would set him free from poverty on one hand, and unleash his full potential on the other hand.

It takes humility to accept that you don't really know what you are teaching. Know here means intimate experience with a subject as in a man having carnal knowledge of his wife. When you find the truth about something, you will not only dominate it but enter into rest.

So in 1981, long before he started the ministry, went on a three days knowledge gaining adventure. He took with him two books, “The laws of Prosperity” by Kenneth Copeland and “God's will is Prosperity” by Gloria Copeland in addition to his Bible. He asked God to, “Show me the secret of kingdom prosperity”. And on the third day he got it. You will always know when you find the truth. Like Archimedes who shouted “Eureka” when he discovered the law of floatation, Oyedepo screamed, “I can never be Poor!” that singular knowledge set him free and his generation from poverty.

That day he got financially educated. That knowledge made him courageous and prosperous. When you get financially educated, you become financially empowered.

A wise man is strong, yes, a man of knowledge increases strength. Prov 24:5.

The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law. Deu29:29.

Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery, but the people who know their God shall be strong and carry out great exploits. Dan 11:32.

He did not stop there. He continued to study and learned how to manage and multiply money.

Ministry Is business

From my experience pastoring a Church and associating with pastors, I have noticed that they see ministry or a Church as spiritual. But David Oyedepo sees ministry as a business.

Your perception of a thing will determine to a great deal your approach to it. When he got this understanding, I believe was the time he began to structure the ministry as a business organization.

The purpose of a business is to create a market or a following. Market responds to the value that is created. Oyedepo focuses on creating value in the Church so that a following of people (satisfied customers) will be created.

And as long as you continually satisfy your customers, they will keep on coming and even tell others about you. He integrated this business strategy into the ministry.

The word ministry simply means service and in business your main objective is to serve people and make profit in the process. Profit or revenue is the proof that you are actually serving people.

Some pastors believe that a ministry can go into business and start businesses. Others believe the Church should never mingle in the business of the world. But Oyedepo believe the ministry is business, not that it needs to start businesses. There is a difference here.

People who believe the ministry can start businesses to finance the ministry work, end up creating businesses that are separated from the ministry. And as a result of the attention they need to give those businesses, they get distracted from the major assignment God gave them.

They end up losing both ways. Distraction from your assignment will cost you your joy and dignity. Most times the Church stops getting their attention because they needed to grow those businesses. The money that they make from those businesses goes into their personal account and not into the ministry.

You can confess that you are going to be rich all your life, if you have the wrong belief about ministry, you will end up a confused, frustrated and confessed poor person.

By seeing ministry as a business Oyedepo focused on his message as the raw material he needed to manufacture products from to serve people with.

While others are putting in more effort to look for products to sell, Oyedepo turned the Church into a manufacturing plant. He built a system around the Church so that it functions like any company would.

I am not talking about registration with Corporate Affairs Commission. I am talking about using leverage. As a result he never had to leave his position as the presiding bishop to start any business. all he does is to leverage other people's skills and experience to start and grow the businesses.

And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business? Luke 2:49.

"So he called ten of his servants, delivered to them ten minas, and said to them, "Do business till I come." Luke 19:13.

The master did not tell his servants to just preach till he comes but that they should do business with what he has given them.

What did God give Oyedepo? The message of liberation. Since he is business minded, he must have decided that his message is not the product but the raw material as such it needs processing.

He then went ahead and processed his message into twelve potential product lines which he called the pillars of his ministry. From then on, every product or service he produced must come from these.

He divided the pillars into months, one for each month and ensured that value is delivered each month and as he delivers value, he also captures it as profit. He did and still does business with what he has been given.

He is not only hard working but a disciplined worker. People who are lazy do not process what they have been given to make maximum profit from it.

You may be wondering why I mention profit? Profit is the reward of delivering value. Offerings are seen as revenue and if the revenue is down, the person in charge is questioned and asked to find ways to increase it.

When offerings are down in some Churches, the pastor gives excuses and blames the people for not giving. Oyedepo knows that the Church has the world as competition. If you don't deliver value, the people will take their money elsewhere. So he motivates and challenges his team to become better and find innovative ways to serve and bring value to people.

The lazy man does not roast what he took in hunting, but diligence is man's precious possession. Prov 12:27.

So if we have planted spiritual seed among you, is it out of line to expect a meal or two from you? Others demand plenty from you in these ways. Don't we who have demanded deserve even more? ...the master directed that those who spread the message be supported by those who believe the Message. 1 Cor 9:12,14 The Message.

Let the elders who rule very well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. For the scripture says, "you shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain and, "the laborer is worthy of his wages." 1Tim 5:17-18.

How rich do you think the widow in 2Kings4 would have become if she had understood business? She would have become the richest woman during her time. When all the containers were filled, she should have built reservoirs to fill

the oil with. She can then begin to process the oil into various products and sell the. She would have paid up her debt, bought the creditors and their assets.

Ministry is business simply.

Acquiring Assets

In business terms, assets are your plus and liabilities are your minus. An asset can also be a multiplier while a liability can be a divider.

The simple definition of an asset is something that puts money in your pocket, while a liability is something that takes money from your pocket.

People who are financially intelligent spend their money acquiring assets while people lacking of this intelligence spend money buying liabilities all in order to please someone or look as if they have made it.

Pastors or people buy cars not because they are necessity but simply because they want to give people the perception that they have arrived. Meanwhile, the only asset that person has is his job. A job cannot be transferred or leveraged.

They buy cars that take away money from their pocket, buy big screen television to feed their mind with trash card which add to the electricity bill. They have more than one phone and so on. At the end of the day, all of their salary and more goes into paying expenses.

A lot of people are just a salary away from financial crisis. The same can be said with a lot of Churches and businesses. Money is used to buy liabilities.

When you buy liabilities you are only thinking short term. You don't really have a vision and even if you have, you are not disciplined enough to make sacrifices today for it.

Whether you have a big car or walk, people will always talk. That's why they have a mind and a mouth. Pity them if they are not making money from talking.

Oyedepo invests in assets. I was teaching a set of pastors and I told them that after government (both Federal, state and local government), Oyedepo is the largest owner of real estate. Right from the time he started the ministry his eyes were focused on acquiring assets.

First he turned himself into an asset so that whatever he is doing, whether speaking, laughing, or reading- just anything, money will be coming into his pocket.

Before he buys any liability, he makes sure there is an asset in place to take care of it. He doesn't just spend money anyhow. He judges every money that goes out with its potential to bring back more into the ministry. If it won't add to the balance sheet, it will take from it. As such that expense is shelved until there is an asset to take care of it.

He never bought a plane until he had assets in place that will continually generate income to take care of any expense the jet will generate.

While other pastors are having sleepless nights about finances in the twilight of their ministry, he is at rest and getting richer and richer by the day. I know he would have found a way by now to be making money from the aircraft.

When you have a vision, you will have a long term plan and in order to be able to fund that vision tomorrow you need to spend your money today acquiring assets that will take care of you and the ministry.

People watch how the altar is decorated and decide to spend ministry money on decorating their altar every Sunday. I tell them that decorating an altar doesn't bring people nor does it bring money to the ministry. Use the money to create and deliver value and get an asset.

Don't go out and get an asset that will take your attention away from your assignment. Let the asset become a vehicle in your ministry.

Don't copy Oyedepo. People want to start at his level of glory without taking part in his story. First build and acquire assets, then those assets will help you take care of your needs that are liabilities.

“Prepare your outside work, make it fit for yourself in the field; and afterward build your house.” Prov 24:27.

“But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” Matt 6:33.

When money begin to come to you is not the time to spend it on liabilities, things that do not generate income. Make a rule that before you buy any liability there must be an asset that generates more than enough income to take care of it and even think up ways to turn the liability into an asset. Remember riches are the ability of man to think.

All it takes is for you to think like Oyedepo think strategically. Think asset first before liability.

As you acquire more assets, you are developing multiple cash flow sources. When cash begins to flow into your ministry, you will have reservoir from which you can invest in bigger assets and at the same time embark on mind blowing projects.

Managing what You Have

When the people had eaten their fill, He said to His disciples, “Gather the leftovers so nothing is wasted.” They went to work and filled twelve large baskets with leftovers from the five barley loaves. John 6:12-13 The Message

“And let them gather all the food of those good years that are coming, and store up grain under the authority of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities. Then that food shall be as a reserve for the land for the seven years of famine which shall be in the land of Egypt that the land may not perish during the famine.” Gen 41:35-36.

There is desirable treasure, and oil in the dwelling of the wise, but a foolish man squanders it. Pro21:20.

Financially irresponsible people use up all they have, no thought about tomorrow. To be financially well to do, you must discipline yourself to always spend less than your income. Don't ever spend all.

Oyedepo has a policy that certain percentage of income that comes into the ministry has to be saved for future use. Meanwhile other ministries spend all that they have on things that do not really matter in the long run.

You have to declare war against waste and unnecessary spending. Instead of saving the money, you can use it to purchase income generating assets.

We spend all we have not because we really want to or have to, but it is as a result of conditioning. We grew up in homes where our parents had only one source of income and expense always rises to consume the salary. That becomes our reality about money.

It becomes very difficult to put money aside. We allow money to pressure us into buying the things we don't need to please people who don't even matter or care about us.

The more you waste and spend, the deeper the hole you are digging for yourself. And the fall is always great. Many pastors have had to leave ministry as a result.

I see pastors spend huge amounts of money to rent halls, decorate the halls and beautify the place they don't own. I tell them why not use the money to write a book or something that can add value to their cash flow. But it seems when most people have income flowing to them it blocks their sense of reasoning and innovation.

Cut back on anything you do not really need. Use your money for the essential. Rather than buy a car, invest the money in an asset. Trek if you will have to.

Let people laugh. What they don't know you have a plan to be rich so you are making sacrifices for that now.

Be discipline and stop the habit of impulsive purchases.

CHAPTER FOUR

Working Strategically

Covenant Principles

He who has slack hand becomes poor, but the hand of the diligent makes rich.
Prov10:4

In all labor there is profit, but idle chatter leads only to poverty. Prov 14:23

David Oyedepo's sayings

“There is no future in the kingdom for the idle. Rather than prospering, he begins to decay and his body becomes a conducive resting place for sickness and disease due to lack of use. Just like when a building remains uninhabited for a period of time, it begins to fall through. However there are some buildings that appear to be on the verge of collapse, but because they are occupied, they continue to stay up.”

My dad worked very hard while he was still working with the government. He is still a hard worker. He raised us up and instilled in us the virtue of hard work. But with all the hard work, we struggled financially as a family.

I believe that is the story with many families. When I hear people say hard work makes people rich, my answer is that if it does then the laborer must be the richest person on earth. His name is coiled out of labor. But the reverse is the case.

So I began my adventure into studying how David Oyedepo and other rich people really work. They must be working differently so they are getting different results. My conclusion is that you can work as hard as a mule and die as poor as a mad man.

Rather than work hard, Oyedepo works smart and strategically. There is a wide difference between hard work and strategic work, working hard and working smart.

A lot of people who works hard today live a very hard and poor life. Look at the

kind of results you are getting. If you are working hard and not getting rich, you are simply a hard worker.

In Africa we believe so much in hard work. We believe that if you are not sweating on the job you are not working. We confuse being busy with doing business. We confuse motion with progress and activities with advancement. So we work hard and sweat but remain at the same level.

I have met pastors who have multiple job in addition to ministry who are still struggling financially. My question has always been: why do others work and get rich, while others work harder and remain poor?

The difference as I came to find out is in the word strategy. A strategy is a map, plan and a blue print for moving from point A to B. Most people don't even know where they are right now talk-less of knowing where they are going. Rather than work to get to a destination, they work harder to take care of their needs.

They slave rather than work. There is a difference between someone who slave and someone who works. Any work that does not challenge your senses and inspires you to be creative is slavery. This kind of work will lead to nowhere. Yet you find people doing it.

You can never be rich when you subscribe to mediocrity. Not going anywhere but working is the same thing as laziness. God did not create man to be physically agile and mentally lazy. Man was created to be mentally creative and physically skillful.

If you want to prosper, the works of your hands must be the product of the works of your mind. God will only enrich your work when your hand is taking orders from your mind and working out what your mind has thought up.

Strategic work is the cure for poverty infested hard life. If all you do is hard work, then you will have a hard and tired life.

Oyedepo doesn't just work hard. He works hard to move to his destination and to achieve something he has determined to achieve. While others are working with no proof to show for their hard work, he works hard to make impact with financial proofs to show for it.

That you work strategically doesn't mean you work for less than 8hours in a day. No! people who work this way are working 24/7. Rather than being tired, they

are energized and inspired.

Oyedepo simply work differently and smartly than many.

There Are Lots of work

When I hear him talk about how he works, I always wonder what he does. I thought then ministry is for people who have nothing to do with their lives. All they had to do is sleep, wake up, eat, read, watch news and sleep again.

It was like that before he came on the scene. But then he brought the business approach into ministry. He set up an office like any other business and came to office to work and not to engage in idle chatter and just while away time.

The guy who goes to farm to sit and chat with other farmers while they are working went to work didn't he, even if he didn't plant any crop? The results will only come out during harvest.

If there are no results, then you are not working but only going to the office.

Many people say there is no work, but the truth is, there are works all around us. What they mean is there are no jobs. They want a job where someone will have to tell them what to do and pay them for doing it.

Ministry is different. Ministry is work. Work is all about solving problems and making the most of opportunities. If you are not ready to work, then you have no need being in business (ministry).

Any ministry without a product is a dead ministry. It takes productive effort to come up with a product; you have to involve and task your faculties.

One secret to Oyedepo's prosperity and work ethics is that, he loves his work (what he is doing). He is true to himself. He doesn't step out of what he is doing to do anything else. When you do the work you love, you get inspired because you are in your zone.

This means he never works for money. Anyone who works for money is a slave of money and can never be rich even if he has the money. Why? Because he is controlled by money. You can never put your master to work, can you?

Many pastors leave their ministry because they feel there is no work there to do; something that will get them money.

Some years back, I was teaching a set of pastors about the prosperity secret of rich pastors and someone asked a question: shouldn't they get a job when the

ministry can't take care of them?

My answer was and still is “ministry is a manufacturing plant. If you know what you are called to do, you will work it out. You don't need a job; you only need to work your mind. If you won't work the ministry it won't work.”

You see, Oyedepo was very much sold out to working the ministry and not working for money. He knew that when the ministry works, it will take care of all his needs, wants and desires. He embraced the dignity of labor and stayed on his assignment to work it out.

He never sees ministry as a job. That is too belittling. He saw it as work and embraced the task. Every part of him was committed to making it work.

When I entered my office in the morning till I leave in the evening, I work. I don't just work, but I work the ministry. I power it to produce. I put pressure on it to bring forth so that I can dominate finances.

If God works and Jesus works, who are you to say there is no work and waste your life looking for a job? The idea of work is to produce value.

You were created to produce. That's your work. So if you are not producing you are not working and you have no right to claim riches.

But Jesus answered them, My Father has been working until now, and I have been working.” John 5:17.

“I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.” John 9:4.

He waters the hills from His upper chambers; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your works. O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all. The earth is full of Your possessions. Ps 104:13, 24.

So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” Gen 1:27-28.

“Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away, and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Abide in Me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can

you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.” John 15:2, 4-6, 8, 16.

Just as God sent Jesus to work and produce, so has Jesus sent you to produce by working. If you are not producing you are not working.

Work Predicts Wealth

There are pastors who set up offices in the Church but never go there. They are still sleeping around 12.00p.m. Others come to the office and do nothing but talk. Yet they pray and desired God to make them rich.

The only time most pastors really do anything is Sunday morning. Yet there are pastors who will wake up that Sunday morning and ask God to direct them to a scripture. The verse that catches their attention the moment they open their Bible is what they will preach about. These set of pastors take many kinds of offerings but yet are still struggling.

When I joined Winners Chapel, I quickly observed that they spend more time teaching the word than in taking offering. You are not over disturbed or pressured to give but you just want to give. They take only an offering, yet they abound with results.

It didn't take my curiosity long to come to the surface. What we see is a shadow; an effect. I must search for the fire; the cause. And I did. It is simply purposeful work.

Purposeful work is work that makes your success predictable. Some people say Oyedepo is lucky while others say God helped him. Still, others say it is the mercy of God.

Yes, he is lucky. He created his luck by his work. True, God helped him. Imagine how much God would have helped him if he had not worked. Of course, God loves him. But God will never break His word (covenant) in order to show him mercy.

These are simply excuses by people to commonize his results and to justify why they are not where they want to be. The truth is, everyone wants his results but no one wants to work. God doesn't love him more than anyone of us.

What is purposeful work? It is working towards achieving a stated goal and objective. Working towards a goal makes success predictable.

One day I heard him say that before he goes to the office, he has a list of things to do and must complete them before leaving the office. That is a disciplined man on purpose.

He doesn't go to the office and wait for work to come. He goes to the office to work and achieve a goal.

He sets a goal and develops an action plan for each objective and every day works on those objectives until he achieves them. People only see the result of the work and not the work itself.

God created everything on earth because He purposed it. When you look at the sequence of creation, you will know God had a goal in mind and then developed activities (what He needs to do) to achieve the goals. He created everything for man, and then He created man.

You are created in God's image and likeness; therefore it is your nature to engage in purposeful work. Those actions or activities move you towards your destination.

One of his goals is to be one of the richest men on earth. He must have sat down and mapped out what he needs to know and do to achieve this. Then commit to doing it without fail every day. Even though he never saw results instantly, he never gave up. He kept at it because working like God always produce desired results.

If you set a goal in line with your assignment and the revelation of God's word, develop what you need to be doing every day towards achieving the goal. Even if it takes taking one step at a time, keep to it you will get there.

To work with purpose is to work by God's un-failed principles. Rev. Sam Adeyemi, shared this in his book Leads Multiply your Success, "I remember the day I approached Dr. David Oyedepo and said, 'sir, what do you do if the Church refuses to grow?' I had tried everything I know. When you try everything and nothing is working, it means you need to know a little bit more. I cannot forget

his response. He said, “Whatever it is you are doing, continue to do it. The growth you are looking for is seasonal. As long as the farmer continues to sow his seed, he does not actually have a problem, because some day the power of God will kick in and turn his seed into a harvest. The real problem happens when the farmer becomes frustrated because he is not seeing immediate results and he stops sowing seeds. When the farmer stops sowing seeds, there is nothing for God to grow into a harvest.”

Goal setting and goal working operate on principles. If you don't plan your activities, other people will come and ask you to help fulfill theirs. You don't have a purpose when you move around town like a goat. Oyedepo said, “A man without a goal is a goat”

Commit your way to the Lord, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass. Ps 37:5.

The preparation of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord. Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established. A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps. Prov 16:1, 3, 9.

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Gal 6:7, 9.

The future of your enterprise is what you are doing every day. Be purposeful about what you are doing.

Purposeful work is partnership between you and God. When you do your part of the partnership, God will do His part. Most people don't even partner with God in the first place; while others who partner don't even do the things they are meant to do.

You see pastors prefer helping someone build his work to building their own. They want to be invited to preach somewhere to receive a honorarium rather than stay and work their work. I have had to decline to speak in other Churches for close to two years now.

Why build another man's work when your own lies in ruins? If you don't do your work no one will. Nothing happens by accident. Everything is made happen when people become responsible and take action.

Always Use Leverage

Then He called his twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. So they departed and went through the towns, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere. Now Herod the tetrarch heard of all that was done by Him; and he was perplexed, because it was said by some that John had risen from the dead, and by others that one of the old prophets had risen again. Herod said, "John I have beheaded, but who is this of whom I hear such things? So he sought to see Him. Luke 9:1-2, 6-9.

And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. 2Tim2:2.

In Acts7, the apostles used leverage to cause the growth of the Church. They delegated responsibility and focus on their assignment: prayer and the ministry of the word. As a result, there was explosion in growth.

People who use leverage multiply their impacts and services. It is very easy to become rich when you use leverage. People who don't use leverage will never become rich.

If you are not using leverage then you must be someone else's leverage. While leverage multiplies your impact, systems make your impact predictable.

Without a system in place, your leverage won't work. To work strategically, you need to have both.

Oyedepo designed the ministry as a business would. He created a structure with work descriptions and indicators of success. Now he did not just employ anyone but those who are skilled and competent to fill those positions.

If he had made ministry to revolve around him, he won't have made any headway. Like McDonald, he created a system around the operations of the ministry; a turnkey system. By so doing, he made getting results predictable and multiplied his reach.

It is really surprising to him when a pastor is not getting the desired results. It will only point to the fact that, that pastor is not following the recipe fully. He leverages everything.

He also leverages the branches as distribution and retail outlets for his manufactured products. The challenge of most manufacturers is how to distribute and sell their products. That was taken care of.

The leverage was able to work because of the system in place. As a result, he is able to reach large numbers of people at once without much effort.

You need to design your ministry in such a way that retail businesses does. Study their value chain of products: from manufacturing to retail and adopt it into your ministry system or what you do.

For instance, if you want to be the richest man in the world, study the system and leverage Bill Gates is using that made him rich and adopt it into your ministry.

You are spiritual but your work is carnal (i.e physical). Build the right system, and then leverage all you can.

With a robust system and a lever, like Archimedes, you will move and influence the world.

CHAPTER FIVE

Constant Self Improvement

Covenant Principle

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers. 3 John 2

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord and in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper. Ps1:1-3

David Oyedepo's sayings

“Many read for pleasure, no wonder they constantly live under pressure. It is time to study for insight. Be committed to fact-finding in your search, not just for pleasure and religious satisfaction or a routine morning devotion time. The evidence of your studies must be seen around you, manifested in your freedom from sickness, sin, sorrow and suffering. The joy of the Lord should be seen oozing forth from you and great results coming from the work you are doing. Then shall we know that you are really devoted in your search and studies.”

Income seldom exceeds your personal development and when it does, it will always return back to your level of growth, an amount you can comfortably manage. Riches are like a shadow of you. As you grow on the inside, your income follows up.

Riches is more an inside game than what you do on the outside. People, who are not working on themselves will run after and work for money and yet with nothing to show for it.

When I first began to go to Church, I heard people say that readers are leaders. So since I desired to be a leader, a financial leader, I began to read books. I read and read. But my finances were not growing. At times I got discouraged. But I kept at it. Then one day, God opened my eyes to the mystery of personal growth and development.

Personal growth and development doesn't happen naturally with age and it is not something you accidentally stumble upon. You must desire it. You must plan it. You have to be intentional about it. It has nothing to do with the number of books you have read or what you know.

Personal development that leads to personal growth is a function of what you do with what you read and know.

Even physical growth doesn't happen by accident; you have to be intentional about how you want your body to grow and develop. If you pass out as waste all the food you eat, you will never grow into a fully developed person.

That's why nutritionists advise us to make sure our diets are balanced. Any deficiency in the constituent of the food you eat will cause a deformation in a part of your body. And once one part is affected, it will move to affect your whole body.

So we always check out the food we eat to make sure that all the different parts of food that makes it balanced are available. Imbalance is a disease.

If you therefore want your body to grow and develop, maximally, you will need to constantly eat balanced diet and exercise your body.

In the same way you develop your body, you will have to develop your mind and spirit. What is the essence of eating all the food when you are not ready to exercise and allow the food to spread evenly in your body? This results in obesity and heart related challenges.

My problem was, I was reading lots of books but I was not exercising what I was reading. I was reading to know rather than reading to apply. There is a difference between the two.

One is simply knowledge that puffs you up and makes you proud. That kind of knowledge will never make you rich. If knowledge on its own makes rich, the Universities and Librarians would have been the richest place and people respectively on earth.

Reading to just know is not wisdom. Wise people read in order to apply what they glean in books. They understand that knowledge will only profit you when you apply it. And knowledge has a shelf life. That is to say, if you don't use it soon you will lose or forget about it. As such they apply the knowledge they gain immediately.

By applying the knowledge they are basically storing it. What you apply you will always remember. That is the best method of learning.

Oyedepo doesn't read to know. He reads in order to grow and develop. A book therefore has no meaning and relevance to him if it will not help him to grow and develop.

“....we know we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies.” 1 Cor 8:1

“He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me...John 14:21.

Wise people store up knowledge... Prov 10:14.

A scoffer seeks wisdom and does not find it, but knowledge is easy to him who understands. Prov 14:6.

To love is to apply what you know to help others. It is selfishness to read a book only to gain knowledge. Love is the source of true wealth. Oyedepo reads to learn in order to apply to make life better for people.

I learnt this lesson from a pastor in his Church. After my one year compulsory Youth Service, I decided to leave Gombe State for Ondo state. I served in Ashaka, which means I would have to move to Gombe the State capital to spend the night before proceeding to Abuja. I got to Living Faith Church in the evening.

A pastor saw me reading a particular book and asked me what I have learnt from the book and how and when I intend applying it? I could not answer him because to me all I needed to do was read the book. He then said, Oyedepo advised them to always read to receive instruction and not just to know. It took years for this lesson to sink in.

What is the profit of knowledge when you will not apply it to solve problems? Applying what you read is exactly what results in personal growth and development.

And when you grow and develop, your riches will come alongside. It is not more job or increase in salary you need. What you really need is to grow and develop.

I read the story of how Oyedepo once traveled to the US and on his return, bought books. His wife asked what he brought for her and he answered books.

Then he made a life changing and enriching statement: if he reads and understand all that is written in those books, he will build a factory that will produce all that they need. Today that factory is David Oyedepo Ministry International.

What if he just bought the books to decorate his library like many do or even read them just for the sake of reading? He would have been struggling in Kaduna with less than a hundred members and still driving his old beat up beetle car.

Other pastors would have used their money to buy designer wears, shoes, ties and electronics. If he had bought clothes, how long would they have worn them?

Anytime I travel to the US, the first place I visit is a bookstore and not the mall. In that bookstore lies the resources I need to grow. Only the knowledge you understand and put to use has the potential to profit you.

Gaining Insight To Grow

Growth and development result in maturity. And your level of maturity determines your level of wealth in the kingdom of God. Large amount of riches will destroy a baby.

To extract energy from the food you eat in order to grow and develop physically, you will have to digest the food.

Personal growth and development is the result of understanding and application of what you read and know. You have to understand what you read to grow and apply it to develop.

Gaining insight then is the key to growth and development. When you grow, your capacity to handle riches grows and when you develop, your capability to create more wealth increases.

All you need to do to know if you are profiting from the books you are reading is, what you are earning and your bank balance.

Insight is the difference between how two people operate and solve the same problem.

Insight is simply understanding knowledge while wisdom is applying the insight. So if you don't first understand it, there is no how you can apply it. Knowledge comes easily to those who have insight.

Two people may be looking at the same thing, yet see two different things. One

may see a town full of poverty, while the other will see opportunities to create wealth everywhere. This is why, while Nigerians see nothing but poverty in their country; the Indians see wealth on the streets of Nigeria.

The difference in perspective is as a result of their mentality. What your mind is filled with that's exactly what you will see around you; you won't see anything even in a palace except poverty.

People who come to Akure want to leave because to them the city is not developed and is poor. No one wants to stay in the city except those who got employed in the civil service or banks. One day Oyedepo came to the City. He said on his way from the airport to the Church where he was invited to minister, that he saw opportunities to create billion dollar business and industries.

What's the difference? Insight. His mind is filled with abundance. It is impossible for him to see poverty. Even if he meets poverty face to face, he will still find opportunity to either milk poverty of riches or employ poverty to create wealth.

The insight you have determines your worth in life. His insight comes from understanding the word of God. He doesn't read the Bible, he eats it.

The word of God will not only cause you to grow, it will build you up (or develop you) to reach a point when you can inherit all that God has promised you. Riches are one of such inheritance.

When you grow as a result of the insight you are gaining from reading, you will be filled with wisdom. When you have wisdom, insight (understanding) and knowledge, you will never be poor.

As new born babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby. 1 Pet 2:2.

And the child grew and became strong in spirit filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him. Luke 2:40.

So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. Acts 20:32.

Wisdom is what makes people rich. Knowledge creates opportunity, insight sees it but it is wisdom that seizes the opportunity and profits from it.

Oyedepo did not become the richest pastor on the earth by accident or miracle, but by design. He designed it on purpose. He goes after knowledge to gain insight and once he gets instruction, he acts on it. That is the secret of a prosperous life.

Personal development then is key to putting your mind to work. So are you reading to just know, or you are studying to gain insight in order to apply? Learn from Oyedepo so that you can get approved to be one of the richest men on the earth. Insight is key to your approval.

Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2Tim 2:15.

Through wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches. Prov 24:3-4.

Riches and honor are with me (wisdom), enduring riches and righteousness. My fruit is better than gold, yes, than fine gold, and my revenue than choice silver. That I may cause those who love me to inherit wealth, that I may fill their treasuries. Prov 8:18-19, 21.

Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God... The Lord will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God is giving you. And the Lord will grant you plenty of goods, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, in the land of which the Lord swore to your fathers to give you. The Lord will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give you the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow. And the Lord will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only and not beneath, if you heed the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today and are careful to observe them. Deu 28:1-2, 8, 11-13.

Prosperity is the function of the insight you gain and apply. If the insight you have is darkness or poverty, then great is that darkness. You will not grow richer than your insight.

What you don't understand you will never know how to execute or apply, no matter how you try. Insight compels favor to come your way.

Insight into abundance will make you see opportunities to prosper everywhere you go. People will be surprised at what you see and do and of course, the result will be very evident. Only fools will doubt the proof of the insight you apply.

Exercise Your Mind

Anything you don't put to use will decay and rust. What is the essence of having a mind and not using it for the exact purpose it was created for. The purpose of your mind is to dominate the earth.

If you are being dominated by circumstance and poverty, simply know that you are not putting your mind to work. Riches are the product of your capacity to exercise your mind.

Which means you can only be rich to the extent to which you exercise your mind. Whatever you exercise will stretch, grow and develop. And when your mind begins to grow and develop through exercise, your wealth will continue to grow and develop through application.

In a ministers' conference, I asked the pastor who was teaching, how Oyedepo prays. He said most times he is in a meditative mood, that he is always exercising his mind.

What most people don't know is that your mind determines your production on earth. Whatever God tells you would have to first be understood and interpreted by your mind. If your mind is not developed, you may wrongly interpret what God is telling you to do.

Whatever vision God gives you, your mind has to first grow and develop to the level of that vision before you can manifest it into reality. If you don't develop your mind, you will never fulfill the dream God has placed in your heart. Godliness is thinking like God.

Because of laziness the building decays, and through idleness of hands the house leaks. Eccl 10:18.

For bodily exercise profits little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come. 1Tim 4:8.

For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of

righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. Heb 5:13-14.

“This Book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” Jos 1:8.

When you leave your mind to idle away, it will leak with poverty. Meditation is key to exercising your mind to development. Whatsoever you read, take time to think of it. Understanding is the result of thinking (Ps119:99). Good thinking brings about great results.

Oyedepo wrote, “I think meditation is the missing asset in the Church today. So many are given to rigorous reading and studies, but very few people take time to ponder on the facts and issues involved, in order to lay hold on the facts of life that they contain. It is not enough to be a reader; you must also be a thinker. You must be given to the genuine art of meditation, so you can enjoy mental distinction.”

A lot of people's mind has rusted. They have rickets of the mind. If you put your mind to work, it will be free of rickets.

If you want to have more prosperity then work on yourself to become more. Work on your mind to grow and develop. Your mental development directly influences your income.

It is really hard to keep what you did not obtain by your mental growth and development. Stop going after money and start working on yourself, to develop and grow your mind.

Your net-worth is a function of your mind worth. Grow your mind worth so that your net worth can grow too. Learn to increase your mind worth because that is your value. How valuable you are will determine how rich you become.

Oyedepo developed and continues to develop himself to be much more valuable and relevant, as a result he continues to increase in wealth. Where your self-improvement stops that's exactly where your income will peg.

All you need to do is to increase your value, keep on working on yourself and improve yourself so that you can be relevant and valuable. Always put your

mind to maximum use.

CHAPTER SIX

Solving People's Problems

Covenant principle

Be diligent to know the state of your flock, and attend to your herds; for riches are not forever, nor does a crown endure to all generations. When the hay is removed, and the tender grass shows itself, and the herbs of the mountains are gathered in, the lambs will provide your clothing, and goats the price of a field; you shall have enough goats' milk for your food, for the food of your household, and the nourishment of your maidservants. Prov 27:23-27

David Oyedepo's sayings

“God blessed Abraham so he would become a blessing. He blessed Abraham, not so he would become a consumer, an accumulator, or a possessor; but so he could be a blessing. It is your commitment to being a blessing that determines the level of blessing that God can ever place on your life... it is your commitment to being a blessing that qualifies you for God's blessings. Your dream has no future if it is all about you alone. Someone who is dreaming of how to be part of solving the unemployment problem in his nation is opening the door of God's blessing into his life. Anyone that is sincerely concerned about the plight of the homeless (a genuine concern, not just so that he can be known and seen by everyone) and is working towards providing a permanent answer for them is set for God's wealth.... Our readiness to be a blessing is what determines the level of blessings that God can ever entrust into our hands. This places an unlimited responsibility on us.”

Henry Ford observed the people and noticed that they are using horses that draw carriage. No matter how in a hurry, one is, you can never go faster than the horse. I mean you can never accelerate the horse beyond its capacity to run.

He went to his laboratory and came up with his solution to the need of the people. Rather than come out with a well-trained faster horse, he came out with an automobile that every family can own. He solved the people's problem. As a result, he became one of the richest men on earth.

People become rich on earth when they solve the problems of people. The more

the people who have the problem, the richer the solution provider is. Microsoft, Google, Apple, Samsung, Oracle, Cisco, Toyota, McDonalds, Starbucks, Amazon.com, Facebook, Nokia and Virgin are all rich not because they are companies based in the developed world. Their location has nothing to do with it.

What is making them rich is the fact that they positioned themselves to solve a unique problem for humanity. Bill Gates became the richest man in the world because he is solving a very unique problem for the whole humanity.

If you are using a computer or phone with the windows operating system, then you are part of the people Microsoft is set up to solve problem for. What is the essence of being alive when all you are doing is contributing to the problem of humanity rather than solving it?

When you look at the nations that are categorized as poor and developing, you will find out that the people rather than solve problems avoid them all together. There is no way you can avoid a problem and end up rich. Problems are the high way to riches.

To most Christians, the problem is a sign of the devil in manifestation. When a problem occurs, they bind and loose. Not knowing that the problem is the way to their riches.

Dr Myles Munroe once said that wherever there are problems, there are opportunities for wealth. The bigger the problem and the more the people suffering under its yoke, the bigger and greater the opportunity is to create wealth.

If you are not solving problems you have no right to seek prosperity. God has equipped you with the power to turn problems into wealth and has given you all things that pertain to solving problems like He would have. So why are people still poor? I don't know! Ignorance is most likely.

I once visited a Church where most of the members are poor and unemployed, to my surprise the pastor preached about Tabernacle. Talking about the details of David's tabernacle and how you can enter to worship. I said no wonder, the Church is not growing and the people are poor and unemployed.

What I learnt from observing David Oyedepo is that he observes and studies the people who attend his Church and then labor diligently to develop solutions to their problems.

While other pastors wait for inspiration from God on what to teach, he labor more to find out what are the pressing problem of people and then ask God to give him a solution. As a result every message he preaches is a solution targeted against a problem he has observed.

I began to study how he goes about this. I found out that he uses the same process that companies use to come up with technologies. The messages he preached are not really messages, they are technologies being delivered to people in order to make their lives easy and better.

When you solve someone's problem, the person will in turn give you money in exchange. This is a kingdom principle. When you look at the Body of Christ, poor pastors are those who are not developing technologies that solve people's problems.

Oyedepo broke down his message into twelve parts and for each one, develops a technology that addresses problems in that area. The Church functions like a school. Every month a common theme is being taught with books to serve as guide. This means every one of the Church you visit, you find the same problem being addressed in the same way.

This is similar to the concept of franchise that McDonald popularized. Everyone of the franchise outlet you visit has the same recipe and service model. Basically they systemize and scale their problem solving technique. They are rich because they solve problems for a lot of people.

It requires diligence and both focused and creative thinking to come up with a solution to people's problem. If all you think about is you, then you will only complain and blame the people.

If the people are not giving money then you are not solving their problems. Instead they will hate you when they find out.

I heard a story about a pastor who invited a guest minister to his Church. The guest minister taught the people from his heart, answered the questions of their heart, met their needs and solved their problems. The Church came alive and the pastor was really amazed that his Church members could come alive.

After the guest minister had left, some of the members who were bold asked their pastor if he knew all that was taught by the guest minister. He answered yes. The people became angry and left his Church. They moved to the guest minister's Church. The pastor knew the solution to their problems but refused to

give it to them.

Even if the pastor knows what was taught, possibly he never studied his people to know they have a need. The intersection of people's needs and the solution you provide is key determinant of your wealth.

What do you find today? Teachings that is irrelevant to the people's challenges, sermons that do not help the people. They don't need motivations they need solutions.

If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things? Even so the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should live from the Gospel. 1 Cor 9:11, 14.

Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine. 1Tim 5:17.

The people will curse him who withholds grain, but blessing will be on the head of him who sells it. Prov 11:26.

Get to know the pains, problems and the challenges people are experiencing then develop solutions for them and deliver it to them. Jesus solved people's problems and they took care of His needs.

Make Life Better For People

I read in one of Oyedepo's books about a landlord who told his tenants who had challenges to go to Winners' Chapel and that if they get there, their life will be changed. Not only did their status got better, the landlord who was a Muslim had to stop being a sign that directs people to the Church. He joined.

Impacting lives is the target of Oyedepo. His goal is to move people from a place of lack to that of abundance, poverty to riches and riches to sustainable wealth.

He said, "It is only being a blessing that qualifies you for a continuous flow of God's blessings. This is God's cardinal purpose for empowering His people. So, if you want a transformation from poverty to supernatural prosperity, you need an ever-enlarged heart to be a blessing to others. You need a heart that is enlarged to being a blessing to humanity. Until we are out to help the helpless, and our hearts are open to being a blessing, the heavens over us will not open to pour blessings upon us in a way that our room will not be big enough to contain it. God blesses to make the blessed a blessing. Any blessing that is not a blessing to others will soon be turned into a curse. The level you are willing to discharge

determines your ultimate size in God's blessings.”

To be blessed means you have been given the capacity by God to make life easy and better for others. If you are not making life easy for others, then you are far from being blessed.

When you begin to impact people's lives, the whole city where you are living will celebrate your God.

Rather than that being the case, today everyone cares only about themselves. They prefer to impact their lives. The law of input and output means nothing to them. When you make quality input into people's lives that changes their status, something will come out of their lives to change your material and financial status.

Therefore know that only those who are of the faith are sons of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, “In you all the nations shall be blessed.” So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham. Gal 3:7-9.

The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow with it.
Prov10:22

People are looking for someone who will help them achieve their goals and make them better than they are. That is the purpose of the pastor. If they wanted to be motivated, they would have stayed at home and listened to a motivational speaker.

Let your focus be on impacting their lives. Let no one that comes to hear you return back the same. The only way you can achieve that is if you keep on growing and improving.

If you are not growing, you won't impact anyone's life. The technologies that come out of your message should be for the impacting and betterment of people's lives.

Oyedepo shared a story in one of his books, how someone came across one of his books. The person read the book and was greatly touched and decided that he was going to be saving a percentage of the money he makes to give the author of the book. One day when he came to hold a seminar in a town, unknown to him, the man came carrying a bag full of money as an exchange for the impact done

on his life.

Oyedepo doesn't do anything for doing sake. He does it to impact lives.

Adding Value

Add value to people's lives and they will reward you. Value is not what you decide it is but rather what people made it to be. Value is in the eyes of the beholder. To bless someone is to add value to them.

People exchange money for what they deem is valuable, that is, something that adds to their self-worth. Whatever you are receiving is a metric for measuring the value you are delivering.

The secret I learnt from Oyedepo is that you need to constantly add more value than you hope to get back. Be generous with adding value to people's lives beyond whatever they want to give you.

This is key to generating loyalty in them. People will always return back to the place where they feel they are valued. Yes, they feel valued whenever you add value to them. No matter how inconvenience it is for them to get to where you are, they will always come and bring you their business.

Companies that have sustained profitability are value givers. The only way a company can sustain profitability is by providing exceptional value to many people on an ongoing, consistent basis.

Value givers are value earners. You may think that after many years, Oyedepo would relax. Rather than relax, he keeps on creating and delivering more value to more people. For long now, Saturday is a day set aside to cook up the value that will be delivered on Sunday.

He once said no matter what is happening, no one disturbs him on Saturday. He doesn't read any letters on Saturday. He stays with God to think in order to create value for the people. Most people see the near perfect delivery on Sunday and the impact of the message but no one sees the creative process and the effort that goes into creating it.

And the people are grateful for the value added to their lives. It shows in their offerings and purchase of products.

One thing he knows is that people don't care about you, they only care about themselves. If you stop adding value to them, that same day they will leave you

to find someone else who will add value to them.

He continues to magnify the value he creates through excellence, empathy and innovation. He puts himself in people's shoes to know their needs and device ways to meet those needs.

Money, someone said, is a thunder to value's lightening. It is the echo of value. You can never be rich without first adding value to people's lives. The more you wow them with exceptional value, the more money comes to you in appreciation.

It is one thing to create exceptional value and yet another to deliver it. Oyedepo has mastered both. He has found ways and perfect the act of holding people's attention while he delivers value to them. He is a master in the craft and he keeps on improving his skill. He doesn't believe he has arrive perfection, because perfection is a process and an illusion.

He differentiates himself from the multitude of pastors all over the world by delivering value rather than preaching a message. His messages are value packed rather than preaching packed.

He places people's interest above his own and that always brings out the best in him and makes him to add more value. Anyone who gives value cheerfully will always receive abundantly back. God cannot be mocked. His principles cannot be broken.

There is one who scatters, yet increases more; and there is one who withholds more than is right, but it leads to poverty. The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself. Prov 11:24-25.

“Give, and it will be given to you: good measure pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.” Luke 6:38.

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. Gal 6:7

The measure of value you give will determine the measure of returns people will place on your bosom. Just check your bank account and you will know the measure of value you are adding to people's lives.

Focus on creating what people value and deliver it in a way that catches their attention and creates a sense of wow, and they will always do business with you.

Remember, ministry is the business of the kingdom.

Pastors who are out to take value from people without adding, are charlatans and will never be made rich.

Your worth in life is an echo, a reward of the value you add to people. People pay you for your meaningful contribution to their lives.

Oyedepo said, “You cannot be tired of hearing me, because I am not tired of working. I study, I meditate and I document! I also write. I know my job! I am doing my job! So I must be paid by the one who employed me. I do not have any other interest in town. My job is the reason I am here. I am a laborer. I am a gospeller. I am staying with my job. Stay on your job, or you will lose color.”

That is how to create and add tremendous value to people's lives and it shows in his bank balance.

CHAPTER SEVEN

Stay Restless

Covenant Principle

“Arise and depart, for this is not your rest; because it is defiled, it shall destroy. Yes, with utter destruction.” Micah2:10

“The Lord our God spoke to us in Horeb, saying, 'you have dwelt long enough at this mountain. Turn and take your journey, and go to the mountains. See, I have set the land before you, go in and possess the land which the Lord swore to your fathers- to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob- to give to them and their descendant after them.’”

Deu 1:6-8

David Oyedepo's Sayings

“A longing for more is the secret of Paul's success in ministry. He was never satisfied! He looked forward perpetually, though without anxiety, to better days ahead and brighter results to come. Hear this apostle of renown: “I count not myself to have apprehended.” No wonder he kept on pressing! If you get tired of pressing, you won't receive the prize.”

One of the major disease killing destinies in the Body of Christ is not HIV, Ebola, Malaria or Cancer.

It is much more potent and subtle than these. It is the disease of contentment and satisfaction. Once you believe you have arrived and reached the top, you will begin to live a life of ease.

Someone get a good paying job, builds his house, buys a car and marries a beautiful woman and become contented. There is nothing to strive for again. This is mediocrity at his best. This person is sentenced to the prison of limitation.

At any point in life that you become contented with what you have, at that point your life begins to stagnate and end. Of course you should be contented with what you have, but not contented to the extent that you no longer strive and live for anything any longer.

A pastor whose Church reaches a hundred begins to feel satisfied and contented

with what he has. He has arrived in the big leagues since his Church at a hundred is one of the biggest. More so, they have been able to build their own building. That is a great feat to him.

The moment you make the decision that you have arrived, your senses stops functioning. It becomes defiled. Your mind is not created for rest but for discontent. Arrival mentality is limitation mentality.

What is doing some pastors is not really the devil, but the fact that they have desired to arrive too soon. The greatest prison you will sentence yourself to, is the prison of contentment. There is no plan for reformation in it.

When you become contented where you are, you become blind to all other opportunities that God is thrusting your way. God may be telling you that you have stayed at that level for long, it's time to move on but all you are thinking is that it must be the devil.

Restlessness means stretching and straining to attain a goal and when you reach that goal you don't relax, but stretch some more. Life is all about stretch. People who continuously stretch beyond where they are, end up creating and dominating the world.

There was a time when Swiss dominated the watch business. then they began to feel that no one will contend with their position. They will always be head and not the tail, above and not beneath. Once they became satisfied, they stopped stretching and they lost the market.

When you study the history of kingdoms and businesses, you will find anyone that becomes contented will eventually lose out. That's why Alexander the Great kept on stretching, his empire kept on growing but the moment he stopped, he was conquered by alcohol.

When you are stretching nothing can challenge you. You are invincible. You are a train on top speed, nothing can stop you. But the moment you stop stretching, a tiny pebble can destroy you.

You will see this difference in the life of David and his son, Solomon. Throughout the reign of David, he was basically restless and as such kept conquering kingdoms. The only time he felt he has arrived was when he refused to join his men at the war front. The result was that he was conquered by lust, committed murder and nearly lost his kingdom. He had to become discontented to get his kingdom back.

Solomon, on the other hand, had everything thrust to him. After he built the temple, there was nothing more to live for but to live a life of ease and pleasure. He became contented and defiled and divided his kingdom (Eccl2).

It is not godliness to become contented with your achievement and not stretch. You will never reach your full potential until you become restless. That is the only way to break through your limitation and blaze new trails.

Death is no different from the feeling of arrival and contentment.

“I was at ease, but He has shattered me; He also has taken me by my neck, and shaken me to pieces; He has set me up for His target, His archers surround me. He pierces my heart and does not pity; He pours out my gall on the ground. He breaks me with wound upon wound; He ruins at me like a warrior.” Job 16:12-14.

“One dies in his full strength, being wholly at ease and secure; His pails are full of milk, and the marrow of his bones is moist. Another man dies in the bitterness of his soul, never having eaten with pleasure. They lie down alike in the dust, and worms cover them.” Job 21:23-26

Woe to you who are at ease in Zion. Amos 6:1

Do you know why God prepared a table for David in the presence of David's enemies? So that David will not relax and think he has arrived.

If there is one major trait I have seen in David Oyedepo that has made him rich, it is the fact that he is a restless man. The last time I listened to him, he talked about stretching to have a congregation of three million people. What a goal to stretch towards!

Most people could be thinking by now he need to ease up. He has achieved a lot of things in over forty nations and increasing. The Church he pastors has a seating capacity of 50, 000, yet holds four services every Sunday morning.

After he built Covenant University, everyone thought the man will relax. But no! He is still stretching and building more Universities and doing much more than he did when he was younger.

Restlessness is in his blood. He can't just stop stretching. I believe even in heaven, he will keep stretching.

Stay Hungry

The reason why most Pastors and Christians relax and stop stretching is that, they stop being hungry. They carry a lot of stuffs that keeps them down.

There is a race set for you. You will stop pursuing it when you stop being hungry. I tell Pastors that when they look for other means to get money apart from doing what God assigned them, they will lose that inner hunger to stretch towards bigger goals.

To many once they have the basic necessities, they are okay. They stop being hungry.

Have you ever seen a hungry person? He will try everything he sees to quench that hunger. Esau is an example of someone who was physically hungry only that his hunger only resulted in irresponsibility.

When Jacob was hungry for a wife, he could endure fourteen years of labor. The years must have come and gone as if nothing happened. He was not creative then. But when he became hungry for achievement, his sense began to work. He became creative and end up wealthier than Laban.

Physical and emotional hunger will lead to foolishness, but mental hunger (a hunger for achievement) will lead to creativity and wealth.

Paul was one of the most creative people in the early Church. He was so hungry for more that, it led him to preaching the gospel all over the world. And in all of these he abounded in much promotion. If your hunger results in creativity you have no choice but to be rich.

The life of most wealthy people is characterized by the hunger to do more. They are never satisfied with what they have accomplished. They are hungry to do more. This hunger results in ideas that keeps them moving on and blazing new trials.

But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ. Not that I have already, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to

you. Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind. Phil. 3:7-8, 12-16.

What kind of mind do you think Paul is referring to? Of course a hungry mind; the same kind of mind that Oyedepo possess. Whatever he has achieved, he always sees himself as just starting. Meanwhile other people will be seeing it as a great achievement, but to him it is just rubbish compared to the vision that is ahead of him.

If he had not been hungry, he would have stayed back in Barnawa, Kaduna state and enjoyed the fruit he was getting. That fruit is just very tiny as compared to what his hunger has made him to achieve.

When you stop being hungry, you will miss God. It seems God works more with people who are hungry. To be hungry is to be passionate. Some people's passion has died long ago. The fire has been smoldered. They are resting and celebrating the achievement of yesteryears. What is supposed to be rubbish is being polished every single day.

Whenever your hunger ends, that's when you become a walking dead. Without passion, your work is finished. It is the fuel you need to do great things.

Keep feeding your passion and stay hungry. When you are hungry, you act foolishly and bring up things that will astound people. That's the secret of Oyedepo: hunger for more of God. The story of the man who decided to store up his harvest and relax is instructive. When you stop being hungry, your soul begins to die. Hunger keeps your soul alive and functional.

Curiosity Creates the World

One day I looked at Oyedepo straight in the eye and what I saw was amazing. It was the same look when I look at Kenneth Copeland in the eye. I didn't see a giant rather I saw the child in him.

Most people grow up too fast and forget about being curious. Oyedepo still remains a child at heart. Restless people are like children and their curiosity is simply exceptional.

There are days when my kids will ask so many questions at once that I become so overwhelm. And their question most of the times are so deep that you may assume them for foolish.

People say curiosity kills the cat, but I will say curiosity creates the world. If

God were not curious about what was happening on earth, he won't have fueled His creative juices to work.

Only very few people are really inquisitive. That's because they have grown up. Children look at everything with a sense of wonderment. They ask how does something work and try to see how it works.

Some people forget this childlike restlessness but others like Oyedepo remain connected to that childlike trait. They are given to experimentation, Observation, questioning and investigation.

If you are not curious, you will accept anything as the norm. People who are curious advance the human race much more than anyone in history. Because they are bold enough to ask questions, they always challenge the status quo.

Everyone has been seeing the Apple fall from a tree and most would have said it was an act of God. Not Isaac Newton. He questioned why the Apple fell down and not fly up. The result is the Newton's law of gravitation which is the basis of many industries today.

People who don't question things always accept and maintain the status quo. To those people the world is better the way it is and if God wants it changed, He will do it whenever He wants to. Curious people are co-creators with God.

Among some things I have observed with Oyedepo is his penchant to question the unquestionable. He questioned why a black man and a pastor cannot be the richest in the world. He asks lots of questions to better understand what is and what might be, then he commits himself to creating what might be. His curiosity releases the potential to cultivate creative insights.

Question is the way of life of game changers, record breakers and setters and status quo challengers.

They don't just ask any kind of questions, they ask the thought provoking, crazy questions that are threatened by people who have arrived and succumbed to the status quo.

They ask questions to gain insight, because insight starts their creative juices working. What made David kill Goliath was a question he asked. If he had not asked the question, he would have not been disruptive. I mean using a stone and a sling was the most sophisticated way to fight. Today warfare is based on the technique he came up with based on insight from a question.

They ask question that get at the root of the problem. They may not say out the question loudly for everyone to hear, but innovators like Oyedepo ask a lot of questions every day and we are grateful that they do.

And of course by asking questions, they come up with solutions to people's problems. They keep asking for the best way to serve and that fuels them to keep upping and improving their game.

Curious people are intense observers. They carefully watch people and the world around them, observing how things work and how people relate with them. They always empathize with people. They become rich because they solve people's problems.

How did Jesus got the solution to the problem of feeding the multitude that gathered at his meeting? He only knew what to do after He asked the question.

Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, 'where shall we buy bread, that these may eat? But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do. John 6:5-6

People who observe, see things that most people don't see in places they won't even look. Their questioning mind is an observant one and most times they copy things from different places to adopt into their work. That is the height of creativity.

Restlessness is one of the permanent and certain characteristics of a vigorous mind. A restless person will always break the yoke of limitation and the bondage of the status quo.

Then Isaac his father answered and said to him, “Behold, your dwelling shall be of the fatness of the earth, and of the dew of heaven from above. By your sword you shall live, and you shall serve your brother; and it shall come to pass, when you become restless, that you shall break his yoke from your neck.” Gen 27:39-40

Creative people like Oyedepo always break the yoke of the status quo. He said, “Every event is invented.” It is created by the restless, those who labor to enter the rest of God. The rest of God that remains is the time when we enter into full discoveries and invention. It takes a press to enter that realm. People who are contented, satisfied and have arrived will never enter that realm. You have to be hungry and stay hungry.

CHAPTER EIGHT

Great Salesmanship

Covenant Principle

Now as he thus made his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, “Paul, you are beside yourself! Much learning is driving you mad! “But he said, “I am not mad noble Festus, but speak the words of truth and reason. For the king, before whom I speak freely, knows these things; for I am convinced that none of these things escapes his attention, since this thing was not done in a corner. King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you do believe.” Then Agrippa said to Paul, “You almost persuade me to become a Christian.” And Paul said, “I would to God that not only you, but also all who hear me today, might become both almost and altogether such as I am, except for these chains.” Acts26:24-29

David Oyedepo's Sayings

“We have been accused of turning ministry into a business. But that is not true. We met it as a business. Jesus, the Author and Founder of ministry told us it is a business. He started it. He is the Chief Cornerstone of the foundation. We are building upon it. It is what we learnt of Him that we are now doing.... This is exactly what ministry is. It involves investments that lead to profiting. When you invest correctly, your profiting must appear for all to see. Your profiting will constitute an attraction, which will draw all manner of men to you.”

The one most vital quality that made Oyedepo and anyone rich is their ability to sell. You can follow all that has been started in this book so far, but if you cannot sell your dream and deliver your message in a way that elicits actions, then you are not going to be rich.

A business that doesn't sell anything is a business that will make no impact and therefore end up as unprofitable. Sales therefore are the key to prosperity in ministry.

We all engage in sales each day. As long as you need to convince someone to join you to do something you are basically selling to that person.

What I have noticed with all the people who desire to be rich but are not is their

aversion to sales. No one wants to be in the sales department, but everyone wants to sit in the comfort of the office and get their pay.

Sales are what bring in the money in any business. People who have made a great success of themselves spend most of their time selling their dream to others who can help it to come alive.

Each time Oyedepo climbs the pulpit to preach, he is engaging in sales. If people don't buy into what he is saying, the result will not be that good.

You may have the best product or service, but if your marketing and sale promotions are not good, you will not make a sale and you need to sell in order to stay profitable.

Also you need to sell your dream in order for people to take interest in joining you to help you achieve your dream. When you sell your dream well, you conscript people to buy into your dream.

Every rich man is a master salesman. They have gained mastery in the selling craft through practice and continuous self-improvement.

Poor people on the hand are poor because they are poor in selling. Exchange only happen when people buy what you are selling and you are always selling something. You better learn and master the craft of selling if you really want to be rich.

As a pastor, you are a kingdom entrepreneur. If you want to succeed in ministry and become rich, learn how to sell. Selling has everything to do with success in ministry. Remember ministry is business.

Selling is communication pure and simple. It is not manipulation, deception, pressure, false security, and phony. It is communicating value to people in order for them to be stirred into action. True selling is empathy, listening, solving problems and serving people.

Selling is about helping people to make the right choice about their life by presenting to them the right and the most relevant information.

If you are not providing much information to aid decision and action, you are simply engaging in manipulation and not selling.

You are engaged in selling when you are passionate about your dream and what you do and are compassionate with the wants, dreams and needs of people.

Where your passion meets the needs of people is where selling takes place.

Your wealth, your power and influence increase as you improve your ability to sell value to people. It is your most important skill in the world of ministry and life. Keep improving your selling skill, and use it to improve the lives of others, and your life and bank balance will also improve.

Dr David Oyedepo, said, “Your spiritual input or impact is what determines the level of material means that will flow into your ministry. In other words, only people that your ministry impacts are permitted by covenant to give into your ministry; and impact occurs as a result of the quality of revelation you receive from God and in turn feed the people with. That is why you need time to receive from the Lord, because as you receive from heaven and translate it to the-people, the end- product will be impact and ceaseless flow of finances to run the ministry. I call it the impact-input cycle: you impact the people and they input materially and financially to your ministry, and then you impact them again and they input their means again, and on and on. The impact-input cycle goes on and on until you stop impacting the people. That is only when you compel the people to stop inputting to your ministry.”

You will not be able to impact anyone's life if you are not a salesman. A great salesman will be able to sell water to a fish if it could buy or sell refrigerators to the Eskimos.

Each one of us is in the dream and idea selling business. John F. Kennedy sold the idea that man can get to the moon. People bought it not because he commanded them to, but sold the idea to them and they bought it. Martin Luther King Jnr also sold a dream that America will one day become a great nation and people bought it. Bill Gates doesn't sell computers rather he sells the dream of a computer on every table and the idea of increased productivity and people are still buying it.

If you have the dream of someday becoming one of the richest men on earth in whatever field you chose, continually work on improving your ability to sell, for that is what will make you rich. Your ability to sell an idea or dream that changes lives will make you rich.

Sell The Dream

I remember the first day I had to sell. A friend has gotten some tapes of Panam Percy Paul and had been trying to sell them without any head way. Then he came

and asked me for help to sell it. I agreed and sold all the tapes that same day.

Even though Panam is a popular gospel musician in Nigeria, I needed to still persuade and inspire people to buy. I told them what the songs in the tape will do to them and everyone bought it.

You must understand that in the heart of everyone lies a dream and like a child, their dreams are personal to them. I mean people are really emotional. When you touch their heart, you are touching their being.

The best way then to persuade and inspire people to buy into whatever you are selling is to put it in such a way that they can see their dreams come true within what you are selling.

People did not follow Martin Luther king Jnr because of him; they followed him because of themselves. He sold the dream to them and they bought it for themselves and not for him. People were making sacrifices not because of him but because they saw what they stand to gain within the dream.

The dream no longer belonged to him, it belonged to them. How will you feel if after buying a product from the mall, one of the salesmen comes to your house to once in a while instruct you on how to use it? I mean you will chase him out that is, if you don't call the police on him. It is yours and no longer his. You bought it.

No one buys something because of how it looks. People buy things because of how it can help them achieve their goal, feel and meets their needs. No one buys things because of the manufacturer. They buy it for themselves.

That's why products that are successful and generate high premium profit are those that meet needs; they are solutions to problems.

Of course, to effectively sell you have to be passionate about what you are selling and believe in its ability to help people solve their specific problems.

Is Oyedepo selling anything? I have heard him say he has never sold anything. I think what he meant to say is that, he has never sold any product that is outside his assignment. If he does, he will just be diluting his brand. Yes, by now you should have grasp that Oyedepo is a master salesman. Unlike many pastors, he doesn't sell the gospel. But sells what the gospel will do in the life of anyone who accepts and believes it. He calls his selling strategy the mandate of his

ministry. Here is how he shares it, “By a definite and divine encounter on May 1, 1981, I stepped into God's plan for my life after an historic 18-hour encounter, where I saw an army of suffering humanity, battered, beaten, tattered, shattered, deformed, defaced, down and out, sobbing, weeping, wailing, and agonizing for rescue. It was a gruesome sight. I began sobbing uncontrollably, because the cry of the afflicted was so intense. I could not help but sob and weep with great sighs. “I then began to ask the Lord, “But why, Lord?” and He responded, “but from the beginning, it was not so.” I was not satisfied with this answer, so I asked again, “But why, Lord?” then came the mandate: “But from the beginning it was not so. And now the hour has come to liberate the world from all oppression of the devil, through the preaching of the word of faith; and I am sending you to undertake this task.”

This is the dream he sells using the Bible as a tool. It is a dream of freedom. It is a dream of prosperity. It is a dream of achievement. It is the idea of how to change status and live life meaningfully.

So he commits himself to selling the dream and making sure the dream becomes a reality in the heart of people. He is passionate about selling and delivering this dream because he believes the dream works when bought.

Jesus sells the reward of buying into the idea of God. I mean the reward and return on investment are so great that everyone is pressing in forcefully to gain the reward.

And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.” Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the Synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, “Is this not Joseph's son?” Luke 4:17-22.

And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick.” Matt 14:14.

So Jesus had compassion and touched their eyes. And immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed Him. Matt 20:34.

If multitudes will follow Jesus about, it means He was a great salesman then and still is. People who are buying His idea and dream are continually increasing. He is able to persuade people to believe, because He is passionate about the dream and believes it with all of His life that He died because He believe it. Passion sells because it persuades and influences people at the emotional level.

Connecting To Sell

Nothing harm sells like not connecting with the people you are trying to sell to. Whatever you are selling, you need to connect with people. And to connect you must leave your position and put yourself in the place of the people.

When you connect with people you take relationship with them to a higher level where they can trust and be loyal to you. So the major aim of connecting therefore is to elicit trust.

You are able to influence anyone you connect with. If you want to connect, you will need to identify with people in their pain and relate to them in their challenges and sufferings.

Jesus is the master connector exemplary. He connected with everyone and still does; no wonder God gave Him all the wealth of the earth, including the earth. He still lives to make connection with people. There is nothing you are going through that Jesus did not go through. He came to earth to connect with people.

Fear any man who has not gone through what you are going through, who wants to give you advice. A lot of pastors who have not gone through what most of their members are going through find it hard to connect with them. Why,, because their members see them as living in the skies rather than on earth.

God would have decided to just save humanity with a word. But He sent Jesus as a man to experience what man was going through. God was seeing from His position but He wanted to also see from man's perspective to understand how to relate with man. God wanted to connect with man that's why He sent Jesus in the form of a man.

God empathize with man. He placed Himself in the shoes of man to feel what man feels, see what man sees and think how man thinks and in that process really connected with man.

Now we all know that God loves us, not because He said so but because He connected with us. When we come to this realization, our relationship with God goes on a higher frequency and His influence over our lives increases.

God indeed is the Master Connector and Salesman.

Now that we know what we have-Jesus, this great High Priest with ready access to God-let's not let it slip through our fingers. We don't have a priest who is out of touch with our reality. He's been through weakness and testing, experienced it all- all but sin. So let's walk right up to Him and get what He is ready to give. Take the mercy, accept the help. Heb 4:14-16 The Message

David Oyedepo is good at connecting with people. Even though he preaches to hundreds of thousands and even a million of people at once, you will feel as if he is really addressing your issue personally. As if he knows what you are going through. This connects you to him and makes you want to hear all that he has to say and are expectant of the solution. He never disappoint because the God who is backing him never disappoints.

For countless times, you will hear him share how he was poor (poverty was his next door neighbor) and sick with Tuberculosis. Why does he share this with people, so that he can connect with them.

When people know you have gone through what they are going through and have overcome, they will want to hear how you did it. The result is that people buy his books and messages to learn how he did it.

I have seen pastors who force and cajole their members to give and buy their materials. The members are reluctant to buy those materials and give, because their pastor has not connected to them at an emotional level.

Why do you think Christians will brave all odds to serve Jesus even if it means death? They bought into His idea and plan for the world because He touched and connected with them at the deepest level. Deeper than you can ever imagine. That's why He could influence them to brave death. He too died for that idea!

Connecting with people never happens by accident or chance. It is planned and prepared for. If you know the effort and time it takes for Oyedepo to prepare and connect with people, within an hour you will be amazed at how excellently he executes this. He makes it look simple simply, because he has become a master at connecting with people.

The profiting on your ministry or enterprise depends to a large extent on your connection skills. It is a skill as such everyone can learn.

While other pastors will struggle to sell a book, once people know that he has published a book, hundreds of thousands of people are delighted to get their hands on it. They know it carries value to make their life better.

He is able to influence so many people because he has made connecting with people a major part of his craft. As a person who sells the dream of a better empowered and dignified life, he has no option but be good in connecting with people.

Inspired To Take Action

Great sales people inspire people to take action and not just motivate. Most pastors who motivate their members have members who are knowledgeable but not inspired. One inspiration can last for a lifetime but with motivation, like brushing your teeth, you have to motivate people every day.

Poor pastors motivate, while rich pastors inspires. If you are following Jesus in order to get motivated, you are in the wrong camp. He only inspires, that is why His business has not only been successful for more than two thousand years, it is profitable and continually growing without forcing anyone.

Sales people always work to inspire the people to take action so that he can close the deal. What is the use of telling someone about something and making them feel good but not directing them to act on what you promise? You are leaving them high and dry.

When Jesus' disciples bought into His dream and vision, they asked Him what He will do next. Rather than tell them what He will do, He instructed them on what to do. About 120 of them obeyed and tarried in Jerusalem till they were endued with power.

Motivating people is like giving them opium. After the effect has gone, those people want more. The more you succumbed to motivating people, the more Zombie-like they become. They will always come for a shot of narcotics and smoke opium to feel high and good.

And when you stop motivating them, they get angry and leave your Church. Motivation like alcohol can be addictive. I am not saying motivating is bad, just don't do it at the expense of telling people the truth. Because when they

eventually find out the truth, they will hate you.

Back then, each time I listened to Oyedepo's messages I always end up angry. Whether angry with myself or with him, I don't know. All I know was that I was angry. I may stop listening for some time then return back to it. Why was I angry?

I never found out until years later. He is not a motivational salesman peddling trinkets. He is an inspirational salesman selling gold, diamonds and precious stones. He is peddling the truth and doesn't care what you think and feel. He is just cut of the same cloth as Kenneth E. Hagin, and Kenneth and Gloria Copeland. It seems they have the pinching anointing.

I heard of the pinching anointing from Kenneth Copeland, when he said he is like a needle for the Body of Christ. The truth inspires that's why the knowledge of it sets free. The true will always be painful when heard for the first time, most especially when the person has been feed with lies.

Motivating people may make them happy for a while, but inspiration makes them enthusiastic (that is full of God). That's the job of the truth.

One day as I was listening to him, he said anyone without a goal is a goat and that he knows exactly what he will be doing for the next thirty years. That got me angry again. Only that the anger was now directed at me: my inadequacies and ignorance. Before then I have heard Dr Mike Murdock say things that hurts or pains and instruct.

That anger became an inspiration for me to begin praying to have a goal for my life. If I were motivated I would have given up, but close to fifteen years after I heard that word, I am still on fire. Motivation is temporary, but inspiration is permanent and long lasting.

Inspiration is God breathing into man. Jesus is the truth of God as such when the word is preached undiluted from a pure heart; it will inspire people to take action.

“But there is a Spirit in man, and the breath of the Almighty gives him understanding.” Job 32:8.

Every part of scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another – showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through the word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has

for us. 2Tim 3:16-17 The Message.

When you are passionate about what you are selling, you can inspire people to do things you believe in and also to do much more than they think they can do. Inspiration is much more powerful at initiating action than motivation.

When you motivate, people feel you are the greatest and without you they are finished and truly without the motivation, they will return to their limited life. But when you inspire them, they feel they can do what you are doing, even more and even better and they go out there and do it.

Charisma or passionate believe is the key to inspiration. Oyedepo is not a dealer in hope, but a dealer in inspiration. He does this by transferring what he sees, feels and can do to the people. They become energized to do more. As a result a form of constructive, productive and positive energy is stirred up in the people.

To inspire, you have to make people see what you are seeing and make them feel what you are feeling. If you are not moved by what you are selling, you won't be able to move anyone. Until something stirs you, you cannot stir anyone.

If you can inspire people you can get them to take any action you want. Their heart must become your canvas where you paint the image of what they can be, what they can do and can achieve. If you do this they are at your beck and call.

You are showing the people what they really are and that they can do much more than they are presently doing. If you can't energize others, you can't be a salesman.

I am not talking of hope. Oyedepo doesn't subscribe to hope and motivation. He simply paints a picture of people's potential in their heart. As you listen to him you will begin to imagine yourself doing the things he is saying. His focus is on you, to make you take action on your call, vision and assignment and be the person God has created you to be and to impact and make the world better.

He shows people who they are, what they can do and how they can get there. This changes everything. Anyone who can inspire you has your heart. You always act from your heart and not your mind.

He is able to inspire and persuade people to take action because he is also running on a high dose of inspiration. You cannot give what you don't have.

You know why he inspires so much following and loyalty? Because he really cares for people. When people know you really care for them and have made

sacrifices for them, they get inspired to take whatever action you want them to.

After Peter preached an inspirational message, the people became so energized that they asked what they should do. That's what being inspired can do.

I have not heard of a motivational speaker that is one of the richest men in the world. But all the richest men in the world inspire people. Don't motivate, inspire and become rich.

CHAPTER NINE

Giving Prove Your Love

Covenant Principle

Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God who gives us richly all things to enjoy. Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life. 1Tim 6:17-19

David Oyedepo's Sayings

“Power is the ability to get things done. Every result is a product of power display. Principles are good, but it takes power for principle to produce. Wealth in the kingdom of God is not an achievement or an accomplishment; it is entrusted (luke16:11). God puts wealth in the hands of men and women He can trust to use it for the purpose it is given. That is why power to get wealth is given only by God; it has nothing to do with the natural system or your abilities.. If God must empower you for wealth, He must first empower you to become a willing distributor; that is, He must endue you with the giving grace. When this power comes upon you, it enriches you for wealth.”

Giving doesn't make people rich, but rich people give. This means if you are giving so that you can become rich, you are on a wild ghost chase. If you started poor you will end up poor.

“But I was told that if I give God will bless me and make me rich.” Yes God's blessing is the only instrument that makes rich and it is more blessed to give than to receive. But nowhere did it say your giving money will make you rich, when your heart still belongs to the world.

What most pastors do is use people's greed to get money from them. If you use greed then you are simply greedy too.

God is a giver, but He doesn't do so out of His lack but out of His abundance. That is why He is the richest.

At times I hear ignorant people say that Oyedepo use people to become rich. And my answer has always been that if he uses people to be rich, then one day someone will use him to get his riches. Also if he deceives people to be rich, then one day someone will deceive him to take away his wealth.

Whatever you sow you will reap. Whatever you live by, you will die by. But since he is still getting richer, there must be something he is doing that you don't understand. I know a lot of people have been waiting for the day when they will hear that he has been swindled of his money. They have a long wait to do.

How do I know this? Because I was sent by God to study and learn from him. And I was a good student. I was only commanded to write this book by God because I have graduated. This is my thesis one can say.

He has first given himself and his heart to God. If he hadn't done that, he will definitely have fallen to quite a number of seams. Do you think they don't come? Who do you think swindlers target? Not the poor of course.

If you don't give your heart to God, your giving will only come from a heart of lack. You will give out of fear and see God as a money doubler rather than a God who enriches.

When he gave himself and all he had to God, God en-graced or empowered him to be rich. So he doesn't give because he wants to be rich, rather he gives because he is rich and abundantly supplied. This is the difference between those who are poor despite their giving and people who give up all they have yet are rich.

One day, I went to one of the pastors who have served him as personal accountant. I just read a book by Dr Mike Murdock where he suggested that one goes directly to his pastor to learn about prosperity. So in obedience I went to the pastor. With a notebook in hand to take notes. My question was: "What is the prosperity secret of Dr David Oyedepo?" he looked at me then smiled.

He said giving; that every year the man empties his bank account. The money is given to God's work. Remember, this is a man who has stopped receiving salaries and doesn't collect royalties on his books and tapes.

He added that I need strength on the inside to do that. Of course, I was wondering how giving money can make him rich. Surely if you have a \$1,000 and give \$500 out of it, you will be left with only \$500. Rather than be rich you are \$500 poorer.

But then I began to pray and seek God for the secret behind it. Oyedepo must have known something I don't know. Every result is a product of secrets. In one of his messages, he shared how he got a secret from two books: Laws of Prosperity by Kenneth Copeland and God's will is Prosperity by Gloria Copeland.

I bought the two books and read them. As I shared in one of the chapters, I was not reading to get insight but to get knowledge. I kept on reading the two books to see what he saw that made giving works for him.

After a number of efforts, one day it dawned on me. I saw it in both books (Kenneth and Gloria Copeland happen to be my spiritual parents).

The secret is that he is not greedy and doesn't see himself as poor even though he has no money. By his partnership with God, whatever God has belongs to him and God is very, very and extremely rich. He owns the earth and everything that fills it, the world and everything in it.

So giving was no longer a challenge, it became a delightful act. He is blessed with the blessing of Abraham and the blessing of the Lord that makes rich is at work in him. He saw that God has made him rich and can never break His word, because it is His bond.

I saw it too. Rather than give to expect from God, he gave as a trust that God has already made him rich. He became like God giving out of his abundance. He gives because he loves and not because he expects and God causes all grace of prosperity to abound to him.

When he found this out, he still doesn't have money. Money doesn't make people rich, the blessing of God does. It's just a matter of time before the blessing will begin to command money to come from everywhere to make you a lender to nations and financially ahead and above.

Giving is the only proof that you have conquered greed. Greed blinds and makes deaf. But when you give and are free of greed, you will see what others can't see and hear what they don't hear. You are on God's frequency when you are not controlled by money.

People, who give out of their poverty, struggle to give but people who give out of their abundance, rejoice to give. There was a time when Kenneth Copeland could only give a pencil and the button of his shirt, but today he has given out more than twenty-eight jets. It's not in the money you give, but the mindset,

attitude and revelation that guides your giving, tithing and sacrifices.

Moreover, brethren, we make known to you the grace of God bestowed on the Churches of Macedonia: that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded in the riches of their liberality. For I bear witness that according to their ability, yes, and beyond their ability, they were freely willing, imploring us with much urgency that we would receive the gift and the fellowship of them ministering to the saints. And not only as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God. So we urged Titus, that as he had begun, so he would also complete this grace in you as well. But as you abound in everything- in faith, in speech, in knowledge in all diligence, and in your love for us- see that you abound in this grace also. I speak not by commandment, but I am testing the sincerity of your love by the diligence of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. 2Cor8:1-9

Whether you give or don't give, if you think you are poor and feel poor, you are poor and will remain poor. You can give all you have, you are still poor. Riches are the product of man's capacity to think and not to give.

But if you think and feel abundance, your giving will continually fuel you to think abundance and become richer. The richer you are the more cheerful you are when giving big amounts to God.

I have heard of people who gave but nothing worked, so they went back and collected what they gave. Such people have poverty complex which keeps them poor. But when they give their mind to God, it will be renewed through the revelation of His word and that will set them free from scarcity, lack and poverty to abundance, surplus and riches.

When you give yourself to God, you become one with Him. Everything you own is His and everything He owns is yours. This is the covenant that was sealed with the blood of Jesus. As such you really own nothing; you are just a steward of God's riches.

And as a steward, you are required to be faithful to your master. People are poor because they lack the revelation of God's covenant and people are greedy because they decide to own what belong to God. Own nothing to own all things.

Helping People In Need

It's not the giver who will be made rich but the generous soul; the person who thinks and feels and lives rich. The person who feels the love of God towards humanity will end up rich.

We are not blessed to oppress others with what we have but to help make life better for people. We are blessed to make life better for the whole family on earth.

One day I went to visit a pastor, who works in the civil service. I have always been in full time ministry and my wife just put to bed. On our way out, he got to his car and opened the boot and it was filled with beverages. In my heart, I thought he wanted to take some of it and give to me, but without doing anything, he closed the boot.

When I got home I was in pain. I didn't want to visit with God because the oppression was getting at me. Then finally I got to God and He said that, "I should live by my generosity." That brought freedom and relief to my soul. That is an example of using what you have to oppress instead of to bless those who don't have.

The rich just shall live by his faith and generosity and will experience God's abundance. God is love and love gives, so anyone who will not give doesn't know God and doesn't love. If you can't help those you see, how can you say you love God? Beats me!

The foolish person will no longer be called generous, nor the miser said to be bountiful; for the foolish person will speak foolishness, and his heart will work iniquity: to practice ungodliness, to utter error against the lord, to keep the hungry unsatisfied, and he will cause the drink of the thirsty to fail. also the schemes of the schemer are evil; he devises wicked plans to destroy the poor with lying words, even when the needy speaks justice. But a generous man devises generous things, and by generosity he shall stand. Isaiah 32:5-8

The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller. The one who blesses others is abundantly blessed; those who help others are helped. Prov 11:24-25 The Message.

But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? 1 John 3:17

The purpose of money in the kingdom of God is to help people when they are in need. Oyedepo is a big time helper of people in need, that's why his world keeps

getting larger and larger.

I was in Yola then, when he heard about a certain people who had no water and no clothe. He quickly acted and provided boreholes for them, bought clothes and built schools. You can never beat someone who gives like God does.

When you help the poor and widow you are lending to God and your religion is righteous. God doesn't owe men. He pays up.

He who gives to the poor will not lack, but he who hides his eyes will have many curses. Prov28:27

He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord, and He will pay him back what he has given. Prov19:17

Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world. James 1:27

Therefore helping those who are in need is like saving money in the bank to be withdrawn later. Only that, when God is paying back, He does so in multiplied fold.

People are suffering, they need help and most pastors are looking for how to get from them not how to add to them. That's why 30% of the proceed of this book will go towards teaching students about money, success, business and leadership; empowerment of widows of service men who died in active service defending our freedom and to University students to learn how to solve problems in the Society.

Like Oyedepo, we want our financial world to continue to expand and expand, get larger and larger, until one day we become one of the richest people in the world.

Enriched For All Generosity

Remember: A stingy planter gets a stingy crop; a lavish planter gets a lavish crop. I want each of you to take plenty of time to think it over, and make up your own mind what you will give. That will protect you against sob stories and arm-twisting. God loves it when it when the giver delights in the giving. God can pour on the blessings in astonishing ways so that you're ready for anything and everything, more than just ready to do what needs to be done. As one psalmist puts it, He throws caution to the winds, giving to the needy in reckless abandon.

His right-living, right giving ways never run out, never wear out. This most generous God who gives seed to the farmer that becomes bread for your meals is more than extravagant with you. He gives you something you can then give away, which grows into full-formed lives, robust in God, wealthy in every way, so that you can be generous in every way, producing with us great praise to God. 2Cor 9:5-11 The Message

But this man, a complete outsider, collected tithes from Abraham and blessed him, the one to whom the promises had been given. In acts of blessing, the lesser is blessed by the greater. Or look at it this way: we pay our tithes to priests who die, but Abraham paid tithes to a priest who, the scripture says, “Lives”. Heb 7:6-8

People keep asking that in this generation of grace do we still have to tithe? Is tithing not part of legalism that we have been freed from? If the blessing of Abraham that became partakers of the grace of God is real, then what Abraham did must be real. To get the blessing we will need to do the things that Abraham did.

What Abraham did activated the blessing. He gave the tithe of all. I don't care if he never paid tithe again. The fact that he did it and activated a blessing named after him proved that it is very much relevant.

I learnt from Oyedepo that you should tithe personally and corporately and that this is the secret of strange financial enrichment that he and his ministry enjoy.

I mentioned our ministry tithing sometime back and a pastor asked me where will the money to tithe come from? And I answered from the work (business); ministry of course.

Wealthy men who shock the world with their wealth like R.G. Leontineau, John D. Rockefeller, and Col Sanders tithe. I mean it will take a foolish person not to see the connection between their tithing and their wealth.

The Jews are tithers by nature and behavior. They have more billionaires and millionaires than any single ethnic group. They have also invented, created and discovered more solutions that have made life better for humanity.

If God's mandate is to bless Abraham and make him a blessing is to come to us then, we need to tithe. Only through this blessing can we impact the world.

Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. And the

scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, "In you all the nations shall be blessed." So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham. Gal 3:7-9

Those who tithe by faith are blessed to enrich the world.

Giving Trumps Receiving

Someone asked Oyedepo what he does between the time he gives and the time he receives his harvest. He answered that he does nothing. He never even thought of it.

The first time I heard this I was kind of surprise. I have been taught that you have to do certain things before your harvest comes in. What I didn't understand was that giving is far better than receiving.

Only people who are blessed give and people who receive are not blessed. They receive. You can never receive and become rich no matter the amount of money you receive.

Examples are people who win lotteries or inherit huge sums of money. Even though they have money, they are not rich, so within a short time the whole money would have been spent.

Giving does something within you. It connects you to the un-limitedness of God and develops you to be rich. The blessing is what makes people rich and not receiving. What you receive can come with a lot of sorrow but what you give takes away every sorrow from your life. That liberty is the evidence of riches and wealth.

Giving from an abundance mentality make you happy, gives you an emotional boost and lowers stress. When you begin to think others, your life begins to appreciate.

The only reason you see most people are sick and stressed is because they have not learnt the secret of giving. Giving is the only proof that you have conquered greed.

Solomon's challenge began after he has gathered all the wealth in the world but refused to give it. He saw no meaning in life because he was not thinking of the widows, the orphans, the poor, the lame and so on. His goal was not to see money as a tool but as an end and when he got it, his life lost its meaning.

Money will never make you happy, giving or putting it to use to help others and make life better will make you happy.

Contrast Solomon with Job. If Solomon had gone through half of what Job went through, he might have committed suicide. He acquired money for himself but Job acquired money to be a blessing to people and that made him much more blessed.

Money is simply a tool to make life better for others. Keeping it will only destroy the keeper's life. Never make money your mission, make giving it your mission.

When you don't know the purpose of money, you will abuse yourself and not the money. At the end you will find out that money is neutral and just a paper. John D. Rockefeller decided to use the first half of his life to make money in order to give it away. The foundation he set up to give his money away still exists today.

“I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” Acts 20:33-35.

The blessing of the Lord makes one rich, and He adds no sorrow with it. Prov 10:22.

Job further continued his discourse, and said: “Oh, that I were as in months past, as in the days when God watched over me; when His lamp shone upon my head, and when by His light I walked through darkness; just as I was in the days of my prime, when the friendly counsel of God was over my tent; when the Almighty was yet with me, when my children were around me; when my steps were bathed with cream, and the rock poured out rivers of oil for me! When I went out to the gate by the city, when I took my seat in the open square, the young men saw me and hid, and the aged arose and stood; the princes refrained from talking, and put their hand on their mouth; the voice of nobles was hushed, and their tongue stuck to the roof of their mouth. And when the eye saw, then it approved me; because I delivered the poor who cried out, the fatherless and the one who had no helper. The blessing of a perishing man came upon me, and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy. I put on righteousness, and it clothed me; my justice was like a robe and a turban. I was eyes to the blind, and I was feet to the lame. I was a father to the poor, and I searched out the case that I did not know. I

broke the fangs of the wicked, and plucked the victim from his teeth.” Job 29:1-17

Like Job when you give, you put money to work for you. You cannot bring joy and happiness to people's lives without enjoying some part of it.

This is why we are giving away thirty percent of the profit from this book to cause the heart of widows to sing, solve the problems of Nigeria and train secondary school students to become leaders and purposeful about their destiny.

Oyedepo doesn't give because he wants to receive something back. That's for the poor. God doesn't give you expecting anything back. That's because He is rich and abundantly supplied. Like God, Oyedepo gives because he already has in abundance.

He is so blessed already and there is no way anyone would be able to repay him. He gives out of gratitude for all that God has given and blessed him with.

Now don't begin to reason that he started giving when he got money. He was giving even while poverty was his next door neighbor but he never identified with poverty, so it didn't take long for poverty to relocate. Poor people receives while the rich gives.

He gives because he knows that the windows of heaven are already opened over him. He gives out of his blessing.

Anyone who argues about tithing or giving is poor no matter how much money he has in his hand.

People who give out of their abundance continue to increase their riches.

If you think and feel poor no matter how much you give or hands are laid on you to give or someone prophesied for you to give, you will remain poor. God cannot help you. God can only help those who think, feel and act rich. He works through your thoughts, faith and actions.

Accessing God's Insights, Concepts and Ideas

I have made a study and found out that people who really give end up with more. I am not just saying anyone, but people who really make giving a career, a lifestyle. There is a miracle that happens when you completely become totally abandoned in your giving without a care.

A joy resonates from deep within you that you cannot just understand. It is

simply unspeakable and incomprehensible. You are just joyful and can't explain why. This is because giving connects you to the flow of God.

This is not just an ordinary giving, but a giving that flows out of love for God and humanity. You are giving as an expression of love to transcend everything this world can ever give. You are simply one with God and you are cheerful about it.

Oyedepo gives himself and his substance out of love for God and as a result of love for humanity. As such sadness is far away from him. People who are sad are people who give to receive and not because they love.

Because they are so focused on receiving they miss the joy that comes from giving cheerfully in love. Whatever you give and no matter how huge the amount is, if it is not given in love, it is meaningless. It has no effect on eternity, because love for God and man transcend time.

Whenever I give in love, I always feel like I am floating in rarefied air as if I am detached from time and the earth and sitting at the bosom of God and listening to Him teach great wisdom.

God is love and love gives. So when you are giving in love, you are living and walking in God and as such you can access what many people who give as an obligation don't receive.

Oyedepo doesn't give and pay tithe as an obligation to God. He does it as an act of love for His God, Master and Father. He does it as an expression of honor and love for God. He is not trying to buy God's favor but simply allow the nature of God in him to have full expression.

You are a love creature as such your acts should be like God who gives out of His abundance and love and not out of His lack or as an obligation to man or anyone. No one can ever disconnect God from who He is no matter what. Because He gives out of love, He remains the richest and only people who give in love can access His wealth and abundance.

As you give in love and obedience, God tabernacles with you and with the joy He pours into your heart, you are able to access His wisdom and power. Givers are tappers into God's divine nature. God's nature is love, rich and abundant.

Nothing connects you to the divine flow of God like giving. Check out the lives of people who don't give or who do so an obligation and you will see a life

devoid of joy. It's only natural for people who love and proves it by giving without expecting anything in return to experience joy. Joy is the key to connecting and tapping into the abundant flow of God.

When you give out of love, God anoints you with the oil of joy and that oil is key to His wisdom and power. Keeping things from people hurts the keeper more because God calls it wickedness.

You love righteousness and hate wickedness. Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than your companions. Ps 45:7.

Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the spirit, if any affection and mercy, fulfill my joy by being like minded, having the same love, being of one accord, and one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interest of others. Phil 2:1-4.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is God and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. No one has seen God at anytime, if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love has been perfected in us, because He has given us His Spirit. And we have known and believed the love that God has for us, God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. 1John4:7-8, 12-13, 16

When we love because of what we can take or receive, we are not abiding in the love of God. That is the love of the world that takes without giving back. A worldly person gives to receive, but God gives without expecting anything back.

In John14:23, Jesus said, the proof of love is in obedient and cheerful giving and if you do that your reward is not a car or money, but God. Most Christians prefer to have money and a car than to have the God who can provide all.

When God tabernacle with you, everything you do will be blessed. When you let go of what you have, you let God come into your house. Whatever you cannot give God is your god. But when you let go of everything and have God only, then you have all things. His joy will strengthen you. People who have no joy are dried up and weak.

With the joy of God you tap into the stream of His inexhaustible source of ideas, concepts and insights. You will have so much idea that you will lack room to keep it. That's what giving does; it permanently heals you from confusion and

lack of ideas on what to do.

Therefore with joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. Isaiah 12:3

Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house (love in action), and try Me now in this, “Says the Lord of hosts, “If I will not open for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. Mal3:10
(Emphasis added)

Tithing is therefore, not supposed to be an obligation but a proof of your love. You can only prove God when you give in love.

God blesses and will continue to bless and make Oyedepo rich because he gives as an expression of His love for God and not like he is playing lottery.

When you give out of abundance, God gives you His true riches and the power to create wealth is activated. Ideas, concepts and insights on how to create abundant wealth flows from God to you. You cannot but be one of the richest persons on earth.

CHAPTER TEN

One Source, Multiple Channels

Covenant Principle

“Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God: “The Lord will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God is giving you. And the Lord will grant you plenty of goods, in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground, in the land of which the Lord swore to your fathers to give you. The Lord will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations but you shall not borrow. And the Lord will make you the head and not the tail; you shall be above only, and not beneath, if you heed the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, and are careful to observe them.” Deu 28:1-2, 8, 11-13

David Oyedepo's Sayings

“Whatever you are looking for and have not found is because you have missed its source. Every time you look for much and you can't see it, you have missed the source.... When you miss the source, you miss the prize.... Therefore, you are not in lack because you are black, you are in want because of the unconnected. You are not down because of the economic situation in the country; you are down because of your wrong positioning in the covenant. It is your word position that determines your position in life.”

I saved the best and the ultimate secret for the last. Oyedepo does not believe in multiple source of income. You may be surprise at this. But he doesn't. Most wealthy men of God I have had opportunity to relate with and study don't. Only poor pastors subscribe to that.

An experience taught him this. He said one day God asked him to look up with

one eye and look down with the other at the same time. He said it was impossible (one of the things he acknowledged as impossible). So God told him if you are looking up to man don't pretend you are looking at Me.

That is to say if he is looking at various source of income, then God is not his source. And if God is not his source, then he will have to labor with all his might to become rich. He will definitely become rich by his effort but he will carry greed and sorrow along with him.

There and then, he closed the chapter on multiple source of income to one source, multiple channels.

When God becomes your only source, He will bless all the works of your hand; that is every channel you made available for him. But if the channels become your source, your labor will be very hard.

That you confess that God is your source doesn't make it so. It is the condition of your heart. Most people will say God is their only source, but when God ask them to give all they have, they become fearful and decline saying it's the devil.

If God is your source, then you know that no one can ever exhaust his resources. Have you ever heard of someone who came to God in prayer and ask for money, and then God said your demand is too much, we don't have that much available. As it is impossible for God to lie, so is it impossible for your demand to exceed the supply of God.

People made their job, family, and friends and so on, their source and not God. As a result they become slaves of money rather than servants of God. It is foolishness to make people or your job your source. Because when it fails you are in deep trouble.

But God will never fail you. Check out throughout history, there is no one who has ever depended on God and God failed him. God is true and faithful. Even if He wants to change His mind or word, He can't. Because it is not in Him to change His mind or break His covenant (word).

When you go to sleep in the night, you are very sure that morning will come. The same way, when you make God your only source, God will not fail you.

He is a jealous God. He is either your Lord or not at all. He won't share His glory with money, your job or family. He must become your all in all, the solid rock on which you stand.

I was listening to a message where Oyedepo was preaching in Dr. Bill Winston's International Faith Conference and he said his net worth is “And my God supplies all my needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.” It means God is His source and he is as rich as God is rich.

That is covenant talking. While other people are looking at the money they have in their bank account, his eyes is set on the heavenly account where all the wealth of God are kept.

Do you know how rich God is? The world and all the wealth in it belongs to Him. But then He gave it to Jesus and Jesus, your brother is magnanimous enough to share it with you.

There is no limit to the wealth you have inherited. It's not like human inheritance where you can divide it among people. It is commonwealth that cannot be exhausted. As unfathomable as God is, so also are His riches.

Everyone who makes God their source automatically become as rich as God and not less. God makes you as rich as He is, but if a man makes you a millionaire be sure he has first become a billionaire.

There is no word in English to really describe what I am saying or how rich God is. I can find a word though in tongues.

A better way to describe what happens when you make God your source is like downloading a file from the internet. Even if the seven billion people on earth each download it seven billion times, the source is still not depleted. It's beyond human comprehension.

When God becomes your source, He empowers you to tap into rich source of abundance supply. Until you are connected to the internet, you won't be able to download any file. So also until God empowers you, you won't be able to tap into His riches. You are empowered when you believe with absolute abandon in Him.

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power towards us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power. Eph 1:18-19

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out. Rom 11:33

“If you start thinking to yourselves, “I did all this. And all by myself. I'm rich. It's all mine!” – Well, think again. Remember that God, your God, gave you strength to produce all this wealth so as to confirm the covenant that He promise to your ancestors – as it is today. If you forget, forget God, your God, and start taking up with other gods, serving and worshiping them, I'm on record right now as giving you firm warning: that will be the end of you; I mean it- destruction. You'll go to your doom- the same as the nations God is destroying before you; doom because you wouldn't obey the voice of God, your God.” Deu8:17 – 18.

You need revelation to understand how rich God is. Read Isaiah and Revelation and you will have a glimpse of how rich you are in God. Streets of gold and gates of pearls (diamond)! That's wealth.

Here on earth rich people use gold and diamond to adorn themselves to look wealthy, in heaven God use it for streets. What do you make out of this?

Wealth is not about what you have but the God you have.

Trusting God

To trust is to rely on. The only test of who you trust is when you don't have money with you. Who you run to determines who you trust.

When challenges come, people run to the world than they run to God. When you trust in God, you will rely on Him no matter how tough things are. Whoever you trust is your Lord.

Money pressures will always come. That is what reveals what is inside of us and separates the men of God from the boys of God.

Today, I see a lot of pastors succumbed to those pressures. They preach in Church that their members should trust in God concerning their finances, meanwhile they hold on to jobs in government or private services. I always say that if trusting God is good, why don't they first practice it before their congregation?

While teaching a group of pastors years back about the secrets of Oyedepo, one pastor asked that, what if the income that comes to them from the ministry can't take care of them, shouldn't they look for a job that will take care of their needs before the ministry grows? They always justify their stance by adding that after all, Paul the apostle was also a tent maker.

It's easy to preach to someone to trust God but most pastors cannot practice it. I

learnt from Kenneth Copeland and David Oyedepo, that I should never preach or teach anything I have not practiced. That is hypocrisy.

I answered the person that she doesn't understand what ministry is all about and know the God who sent her. By saying the ministry cannot take care of her, she was invariably saying God cannot take care of her and that He is not trust worthy.

It is not that God is not trust worthy or cannot take care of the people He called and sent on assignment; it's just that those people are simply ignorant of the word of God. They don't know God and how He works.

When your knowledge of a person is low, your trust of him will be low. God, who sent you, sent you with the provision you need for ministry. But because most people's eyes are fixed on the provision, and not the provider, they become blind to it.

Your provision is in your assignment and the message. The only reason why people run away from it is that, it simply demand work from it. Rather than work on their assignment to produce all they need, when pressure comes, they run to look for a job to meet their needs.

Anyone who trusts God will know that pressures are a sign that you are doing something great. The devil brings pressures, most especially financial pressure to scare a lot of lily hearted people out of ministry.

When you are in full time ministry, you may have no food to eat at the beginning, only one shoe and suit and lack some basic things. What scare most people from serving God, are really hunger, rent and how they look in the eyes of people.

Oyedepo stepped out into full time ministry from day one and never had a need for another job to take care of his needs since. He trusted in his caller, worked, still working and will continue to work and the results are showing.

Any pressure you run away from you will live to fight another time. Why not go through it now? Rather than run away and avoid pressure, face it with the anointing of God that is in you and on you. Whatever cannot kill you will only make you. Financial pressures are building blocks and stepping stones to your financial abundance.

To trust God is to abandon everything and throw yourself on Him. Let the worst

happen. The worst of man only brings out the best of God. So don't trust in man who is here today and gone tomorrow like a wind.

I followed a pastor to pray once and he began to talk about his father-in-law who promised to buy them a bus for ministry. The way he talked you will think the father-in-law was his caller. About a year or two later, the father-in-law was dead and so also the bus with him.

No matter what happened, God can never die and even if He decides to, He will resurrect. No assassin can reach Him. And His word is unbreakable. He is faithful and you can trust Him.

Then Peter began to say to Him, "See, we have left all and followed You." So Jesus answered and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospels who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time-houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions and in the age to come, eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first." Mark10:28-31.

And He said to them, "When I sent you without money bag, knapsack, and sandals, did you lack anything?" so they said, "Nothing."

Oyedepo burnt his bridge as he stepped into ministry. He trusted God so much that he knows that even if he is going through fire, God will not allow the fire to hurt him nor the smoke smell be perceive. He has no investment outside of ministry. His eyes are fixed totally and absolutely on God, His word and the assignment that's why his life is full of light to overflowing.

He said, "...If ministry crashes today, I will crash along with it, because I have no security anywhere else. My security is my confidence in the caller. If ministry sinks, bless God, I sink along with it, and if it rises, He takes me up long with Him. I have been invited to be a member of many boards, but I have sat on only one board in my life- the ministry board. I believe the reason for the challenge of many ministries today is that they have left nothing. Most have left something, but very few have truly left all. If you have truly left all, then you will fulfill your ministry in a grand style."

When you get to the point when you declare that, "If God will not do it, let no man do it", then you have entered the zone of trusting in God.

When you trust in God, He will work things out for you. But when you trust in

men or money, you will find God working against you.

Become like the three Hebrew boys who turn the threat of a king into glory for their God. Such bold declaration in the face of imminent threat to their lives. They were not afraid of the king nor were they afraid for their lives.

They trusted absolutely in God. Nothing on earth could scare them. Their God was bigger than everything, so man could not do anything to them. They stood their ground even when the king taunted their God. Those guys refused to trust or bow to the king's god because they trusted in the only Living and Most High God.

Nebuchadnezzar, saying to them, “Is it true Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up?... But if you do not worship, you shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you from my hands?” Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up.” Then king Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste and spoke to his counselors, “Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered, “I see four men loose walking in the midst of the fire, and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.” Dan 3:14-16, 24-25

When you trust God in the midst of financial pressure and not bow to mammon, God will show off and show forth on your behalf. He is faithful and can be trusted.

Keep Striving Into God

I thought Oyedepo will one day say “We have tried and done a great work for God, its time to relax and enjoy the fruits of our labor.” I am not sure we will ever hear that from him.

The moment you think you have arrived, you have taken your eyes off God on to your provision. What you have accumulated has now become your god. It has possessed you.

You have to be very careful that you don't fall in love with your riches. It

happens slowly and subtly. Your life is greater than what you have. What God has made available for you is greater than what you presently have and He wants you to keep striving into Him.

One day God gave me an assignment that was really tasking. My thought was that immediately after completing the task, I will be told to enter into His rest and enjoy. But the moment I finished the task and visit with Him, God has a bigger task for me. Arrival or resting in God is an illusion on this side of eternity.

God expects us to constantly be on the move, getting richer and richer and richer. There is no limit to how rich you can be. Contrary to what other pastors preach, God has not defined how rich you can be. He made you rich as Himself through Jesus.

So as you keep seeking Him, He will continually give you assignments that will increase your wealth. The more you seek God, the richer you become. But if you decided what you have is enough and stop seeking Him, your life will be required of you.

Don't be like the rich fool, who after getting rich, decided he has no need of God, but turned his riches to become his god.

And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possess." The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'what shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops? So he said, 'I will do this.' I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, and be merry." But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided? So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.'" Luke 12:15-21.

He sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God; and as long as he sought the Lord, God made him prosper. 2Chron 26:5.

For the shepherds (pastors) have become dull-hearted, and have not sought the Lord; therefore they shall not prosper, and all their flocks shall be scattered. Jeremiah 10:21.

People who lack work are people who have stopped seeking God. That's why retirement is a fallacy in the kingdom of God. As long as you seek Him, God

will give you work that will make you richer.

With all he has achieved, Oyedepo makes it his paramount duty to seek God. As he continues to press into God, by the time he is hundred years of age, he will be God's richest man on earth (that is if I or you reading this don't beat him to it).

Seeking God is work. There is no time to relax. The only proof that God is your source is the time you take to seek Him.

Multiple Channels

Oyedepo once said that when they were to buy the first jet of the ministry, they took the offering on a Saturday. No one knew when they bought the second, third and fourth jets and the Universities that followed Covenant University. That gave me the impression that offering and tithe are not only the source of his income.

On another occasion, I was listening to Gloria Copeland narrate how they bought their Citation X. People were giving but then the money wasn't up to. Then they checked other accounts of the ministry and found out that there was enough money in those accounts to purchase the jet.

That gave me understanding of Oyedepo's secrets. He has one source- God, but created multiple channels through which God pours His blessing into the ministry.

The Church is just one channel or vehicle through which God pours blessing on the ministry. The schools are another. The tapes and book ministry is another.

But here is the most vital point to note: If you go out and create a channel God has not instructed you to or before the time, you will have to fend for it out of your pocket. What God blesses is what He commands.

A lot of pastors have started channels that God never instructed them, which has no connection to their assignment and that has become a curse and distraction from their assignment.

With all of those channels, Oyedepo is not distracted from his God-assigned task of "Liberating the world from the oppression of the devil through the preaching of the word of faith." Rather than be a curse, they are channels God has blessed.

That doesn't mean he has not started channels God did not command him to. Read his book, Pursuit of vision and you will hear him say how he began things

God never told him to and how they suffered through it.

He is human like all of us. But despite all that, it seems he has heeded God's command more because all the channels he has now are prospering at an unprecedented rate.

He did not create those channels to make money from it. He created them as platforms to actualize God's mandate on his life. Wealth and riches are products of partnering with God.

One of the wisdom of ministry prosperity I have learnt is to have God as your only source but have multiple channels that God will bless. He promised to bless all the work of your hand. Not just any work but the ones you created in obedience to His voice.

Those channels can only be blessed by God and produce riches if they are born of God. He prospers only the things He instructed you to do.

The Lord was with Joseph, and he was a successful man; and he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. And his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord made all he did to prosper in his hand. So Joseph found favor in his sight, and serve him. Then he made him overseer of his house, and all that he had he put under his authority. So it was, from the time that he made him overseer of his house and all that he had, that the Lord blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the Lord was on all that he had in the house and in the field. Gen 39:2-5

“Therefore keep the words of this covenant, and do them, that you may prosper in all that you do.” Deu 29:9

Thus Hezekiah did throughout all Judah, and he did what was good and right and true before the Lord his God. And in every work that he began in the service of the house of God, in the law and in the commandment, to seek his God, he did it with all his heart. So he prospered. 2 Chron 31:20-21

Your net worth is the average of the five people you spend your time with. So if you see God as your only source and spend more time with Him, He will instruct you on what to do and then command His blessing upon them. Wherever God commands His blessing prosperity will erupt.

Who is your source? Don't allow anything to stand between you and God. Let God be your only source or not at all. He can make riches to come to you from

unexpected places when He is your source.

To become as rich as or richer than Oyedepo, which is your covenant right, make God your only source. He said, "God is all you need to have all your needs met."

Make God your only source and enter into the realm of supernatural prosperity and abundance; never ending supply. One source with multiple blessed channels.