
Benefits of
HUMILITY
NIYI MAKINDE

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Preface

It takes the humility of a sheep to sustain the authority of a lion. If you are not humble, you may not last. There are heights you can't reach except you are humble. Humility may not be the way to dominion but humility is a way to sustain dominion. Dominion destroys dominion. Through your humility, you can destroy the dominion of another. Whoever is humble will be loved while the proud will be hated. You cannot be a dominion in places of dominion when you are not humble. Your humility will cause dominion people to accept and relate with you. Dominion will always fight pride.

Most people we assume are proud are not proud. The rich, prominent and confident are often judged wrongly to be proud. But the fact is that riches, prominence or confidence do not equal to pride.

The question in the heart of many is "how can we know when a person is proud or humble?" You know it is easy to tell a person to be humble, but the question is what exactly should the person do to

be humble? Should he stop speaking confidently? Should he stop leading? Too many opinions here and there about humility.

Have you ever seen someone who thinks he is better than another or that another doesn't deserve his presence because of his level, such is a proud fellow?

Jesus gave a direct and clear insight into how to be humble. He stated clearly in scriptures that you should either behave as a child or behave as a servant to prove you are humble.

This book is loaded with revelation on the benefits of humility and how to be humble. I believe that as you read, you will be blessed.

1

Understanding Humility

Matthew 18:4 "whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven"

There are two ways to prove humility. It is either you are as a child or servant. To be humble as a child is to be simple, willing to learn and believe. A child doesn't have the opinion of his own. He receives and believes what he or she is told. We are told that whoever humbles himself as a child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. That clearly shows that in God's kingdom, humility is a necessity for greatness. A proud person may be great in the world but not in the kingdom. In the arena of faith, humility has to be displayed before greatness can manifest.

To be great is to be relevant. Greatness is about being important and relevant. Whoever is great is considered important and relevant by others. There

is something God has put in everyone that will make those around them to consider them important. We must also bear in mind that it is in the hand of God to make great. David said "…it is in your hand to make great" 1 Chronicles 29:12. I hope you remember that God promised to make Abraham great. The fact is that God doesn't just leave people to work out their greatness, He is also in the business of making people great. Your yielding and obedience to God will make you great.

From the text we read above, it is obvious that the focus is not greatness but the greatest. In certain sphere of influence or career field, a proud person who has the superior results or greatest riches may be the greatest in that sphere or field, but not in the kingdom. In God's kingdom, humility is the way to becoming the greatest. The greatest is the most important and relevant. When we talk about kingdom, we are talking about the faith arena. It is not any results or riches that makes the greatest in the kingdom, it is humility. This is not an attempt to despise results or riches, but an attempt to stir up your heart to become humble.

Your humility has to be proven before you become the greatest. You cannot rise into the highest cadre of influence in the kingdom when you have the tendency to trample on people anyhow. The lesson I learned early is that the anointing of God will not

make you the greatest in God's kingdom. In the land of Israel, their kings were often the greatest in the land. And every king was anointed with oil to confer divine approval over them. But not in God's kingdom. In fact, all believers have the anointing of God within them. God has to prove you are humble before He releases on you the substance that will make you the greatest. You must not assume that it is only one person that has the ability to become the greatest. If we have twenty humble people, all the twenty can rise up to become the greatest in the kingdom.

Humility is not just the way to greatness but also the way to becoming the greatest. You cannot become the greatest if you don't have the ability to bear with others.

Moses: An Example of the Greatest

Number 12:3 "Now Moses was very humble more than all men who were on the face of the earth"

Moses was the greatest in Israel but the meekest of all men. The humblest will be the most ranked. To be humble is to be meek. Self-exaltation and self-importance often lead to destruction. To be humble is to regard or consider others more important than you are. Till now, Moses is still revered and honored in Israel. I have learned that when we humble

ourselves, God honors us. The very humbled among men will end up becoming the most honored among men. Honor will always flow in the direction of humility.

Moses will always be considered as one of the greatest men that ever lived on earth. But same Moses had the testimony that he was very humble more than all men on earth. I have discovered that those who always rise to become the most important among all men are always embodiment of humility. When it comes to the matter of becoming the greatest, your creativity is nothing compared to your humility.

Pride Makes You an Abomination to God

Proverbs 16:5 says "Everyone that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord: though they join forces, none will go unpunished."

The reason God resist the proud is because the proud is an abomination to Him. The moment God spot pride in your heart, you become an abomination to Him instantly. There are many child of God that are abomination to God. Pride won't make you lose your salvation neither will it chase the Holy Spirit out of your life. But certainly, pride can limit what God will do in your life. Pride will hinder God from adding more grace to a believer.

I believe a believer will be proud because he doesn't have the revelation of humility. How are the mighty fallen and the weapon of war perished? When you are proud, you will fall. God cannot resist you and you won't fall. That is not possible. You must never permit anything that will make God to perceive you as a proud son of God. You must remain humble in heart, speech and action so that you won't become abominable to your heavenly Father.

One of the Ways God Births Humility

God takes us through process to humble us.

Deut. 8:2-3 says "And you remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not, So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord."

The above scripture reveals that the Israelites went through hunger and all kinds of challenges just for God to humble them. There are preachers who will say God is not wicked and doesn't permit people to

suffer. They preach all of that just to give a good perspective about God to people. Yes, in a way their message is true as we all know that God isn't wicked. But the fact is that God takes people through certain process just to birth some things within them.

A woman goes through the pain of labor just to birth a child. So also, a person goes through the certain painful experience in order to birth something. Sometimes, you need to take your eyes off what you are going through and become sensitive to what will soon come out of you.

Those who learn fast are those who rise fast. Certain challenges of life are just permitted to furnish humility in you. Some people will not depend more on God if they haven't gone through certain difficulty in life. You may not not be cautious in the way you speak if you haven't gone through certain things. You may not have passion for the helpless if you haven't been helpless in the past.

Could it be that God permitted whatever challenge or difficulty you are going through just to humble you? You should know that humility is about modesty in the way you think, talk and act. Certain painful events may be permitted by God in your life so you can have controlled thinking, talking and acting.

Pride Can Humble a Man

It is either you are humble or humbled. If you find it difficult to be humble, you will soon be humbled. By understanding, you can make yourself humble, but if you are proud, someone or something superior to you will humble you.

Job 40: 11-12 says "look on everyone who is proud and humble him. Look on everyone who is proud and bring him low."

Do you see the above scripture? Evidently, if you are proud, you will be humbled. Scripture says, "look on everyone who is proud and humble him…" That clearly shows that the proud can be humble too. But the proud will not become humble by his understanding, he will be humbled by being brought down and humiliated. It is shameful to be humble because you are humbled. In other words, it is hurting to be humble because you are brought low. When you are humbled, you are brought down. When you are humbled, you are brought to a state of lowness and nothingness.

If God is to look down into your heart, what do you think He will see there? Will He see pride or humility? The fact is that it is what God sees in your heart that will determine what He will do with you. If He sees pride there, what He will do with you is to humble you and bring you low. But if He sees

humility in your heart, He will lift you up beyond your wildest imagination.

Lifting or Demotion is Your Choice

That you will be lifted or brought low is your choice. You choose any of the two by what is found in your heart. If you want to be lifted, you will choose humility but if you want to be brought low, you will choose pride. Your choice will eventually determine what God will do with you. When you are proud, the Lord will bring you low.

Luke 14:11 says "For whoever exalts himself will be humbled and he who humbles himself will he exalted"

If you exalt yourself, you will be humbled (that is brought down), but if you humble yourself, you will be exalted. The desire to remain lifted by the Lord will cause you to remain humble, but the ignorance that brings down will cause you to be very proud.

Never pity a proud person, just watch. An event will always happen that will cause him or her to pity himself or herself.

Humble People Are Wise People

Proverbs 11:12 says "When pride comes, then comes shame, but with the humble is wisdom"

Wisdom will teach you to be humble. A person becomes proud because he lacks wisdom. You may have wisdom for your career but lacks wisdom necessary for lifting. Wisdom is the insight in your heart that informs you that the entrance into highness is to remain humble.

Jesus is the embodiment of God's wisdom. He taught that you shouldn't get to the high seat when you attend a party except you are called to the high table. That clearly shows that wisdom will always guide your heart into knowing what you should do and not do.

Humility is the Way to Getting Honor

Don't seek to be honored; seek to be humble. When you are humble, you will be honored. In a bit to get honor, many have lost honor. You don't need to tell people to honor you, you should compel them to honor you without talking to them. The simple fact is that your humility will compel men to honor you. That is simple, right? Yes! That's it. You may not need some big stuffs to become big. The shower of honor can only come on you when you remain

humble.

Proverbs 18:12 says "Before destruction, the heart of a man is haughty, and before honor is humility."

It is expected of you to have your first degree before you have your master's degree. You cannot just proceed to get your master's when you haven't gotten your first degree. That's it! You have to get humility before you get honor. Humility is the prerequisite to getting honor. The issue in the world is that most people desired honor when they haven't shown humility. The text above reveals that before honor is humility.

Proverbs 22:4 says "by humility and the fear of God are riches and honor and life."

Do you see that? Humility brings honor. Rather than seeking honor here and there, seek to be humble and you will be amazed at how honor will flow into your life.

Humility is the Way to Retaining Honor

Proverbs 29:23 says "A man's pride will bring him low, but the humble in spirit will retain honor."

It is one thing to have honor, it is another to retain it. God will give you honor; you will retain it. Pride will make you lose the honor God has given you. There are certain words you will say that will cause you to lose honor. There are certain actions you will

display that will cause you to lose the honor God has given you. It is one thing to receive honor, it is another to sustain it.

The everlasting substance that will retain honor for you is humility. Those who sustain humility are the ones that retain honor. You don't retain honor by attempting to retain it. You retain honor by sustaining humility. It is your humility that will qualify you to be honored again and again.

Paul's Command to God's Elect

Colossians 3:12 says "Put on tender mercies, kindness, humility"

To put on humility is to think humility. Let your thought reveals you are humble. If humility is in your heart, it will be in your words and actions. Any time you notice you heart begins to think highly about yourself in a way that you disregard your equals and elders, it is that time you need to seek how to change your thought and tell your mind to stop thinking such. It is that kind of thought that God sees that will cause Him to bring you down.

Peter commanded all to be clothed with humility. 1 Peter 5:5 says "…Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility…"

To be clothed with humility is to be saturated with thoughts of humility.

2 Tim. 2:25 says "In humility correcting those in opposition"

All ministers of God need to know that they will always have oppositions. Some people will stand against your teachings, power dimensions, some will even say you are false. When you want to correct others, especially those against you, you must not do it with the mentality of superiority, you have to do it with the mentality of humility.

In 1 Tim. 5: 1-2, Paul wrote "Don't rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father, younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, younger women as sisters."

Ministers of God need to understand that scripture doesn't instruct to rebuke older people, you can only exhort them. Evidently, scripture teaches that age must be honored. Any minister of the gospel that rebuke an elderly person in a disrespectful manner is proud. To exhort is to admonish and correct. A minister of God can correct elderly people in love not arrogantly. Let love reigns.

In Titus 3:2, Paul commanded Titus to teach believers to show humility to all men. To show humility to all men is to show honor to all men. If you don't honor all men, you are not humble before all men.

Command to Believers

Rom. 12:16 says "…but associate with the humble."

It is so amazing to discover that scripture commands that believers should associate with the humble. Evidently, if a believer is proud, such doesn't deserve to be associated with. To associate is to relate with. God doesn't want you to relate with the proud. If God Himself doesn't relate with the proud, who are you to relate with the proud? Scripture reveals that God looks at the proud from afar. In fact, God turns His back at the proud.

A person may be nice, kind, generous, loving, caring, but if such is proud, he is not worthy of your association. A person who is not kind, generous, loving, caring but humble is worthy of association. One of the reasons you must not associate with the proud is to avoid strife. The striving for relevance and dominance will always occur when you relate with the proud. With the humble, you don't see such. Pride will always cause a man to exalt himself above the others, but humility will exalt others above it.

2

Benefits of Being Humble

1. The Lord Saves the Humble

Psalm 18:27 says "For you will save the humble people"

To save the humble is to bring the humble out of a difficult situation. This simply refers to a form of vindication that comes from the Lord.

I remember many years ago, a leader of an organization worked towards my fall. He did all he could and in a way, I was removed from the leadership position I occupied. He actually did that because of envy and intimidation. I was quiet all through the season and watched him brag up and down. What he failed to understand early was that there was no everlasting man neither will there be everlasting leader. Eventually, his tenure expired

and all continued. I totally depended on God for my vindication and after a short time, it became obvious God saved me. What happened was that God turned the heart of everyone who were on his side against him. And it became obvious to others that he was a manipulator.

Never join anyone to make unproductive bragging. Learn to be humble. When you think modesty and depend on God, what people do to you may affect you for a time, but God will intervene to save you. God can only come to the aid of the humble. You cannot be rescued out of the lies or schemes of people if you are not humble.

Psalm 149:4 says "God will beautify the humble with salvation"

I love this, God will not only save the humble, he will beautify the humble with salvation. God will do this by causing unusual manifestation to spring out of your life.

Job 22:29 says "when they cast you down, and you say, Exaltation will come. Then He will save the humble person."

God has never saved the proud person. It is the humble that He delights in. if you are proud, you are too small to be saved by God. One of the ways God saves the humble is by showing him his errors. The proud can never see his mistakes. If you are humble it is easy for God to correct you your errors. If you

don't want to fall into destructive errors, remain humble. God will always turn the heart of men to help the humble.

2. The Lord Hears the Desire and Voice of the Humble

God resists the proud. He doesn't want to hear the heart and voice of the proud.

Psalm 10:17 "Lord, You have heard the desire of the humble, You will prepare their heart, You will cause your ear to hear"

God doesn't only hear the voice of the humble, He also hears his desires. God delight in the humble. Pride will make God to resist your voice and request.

Psalm 9:12 " He does not forget the cry of the humble"

I love this. God doesn't forget the cry of the humble. But he doesn't even hear the cry of the proud.

Psalm 10:13 " Arise, O Lord! O God, lift up your hand! Do not forget the humble.

You should remember that God changed His mind when Ahab and Hezekiah humbled their heart.

3. The Lord Guides the Humble

Psalm 25:9 "The humble He guides in justices"

Divine direction is guaranteed for the humble.

Psalm 32:8 " I will guide you with my eyes"

This is also a promise for the humble. God will guide you with His eyes by showing you what you should do through what others have done.

Isaiah 58:11 "The Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your soul in drought"

God is ever ready to not only guide you once, but to continually guiding you. The humble will keep receiving divine direction from the Lord regularly.

Psalm 73:24 " You will guide me with your counsel"

God doesn't only guide by instruction, He also guide by counsel. God can enlighten you and supply you insight into what you should do.

Psalm 107:30 "So He guides them to their desired haven"

God will guide the humble to His desired destination.

Psalm 78:52 " And guided then in the wilderness like a flock"

4. The Lord teaches the Humble His Way

Psalm 25:9 "And the humble He teaches His way."

There are teachings that come from the Lord directly. If you are humble, the Lord will teach you. The secret things of the Lord belong to God. If you are humble, God will teach you His secret things. How do you expect God to teach the proud secret things? That is not possible. He can only teach the person with the right heart what He can never teach the person with the wrong heart.

Psalm 32:8 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go"

Here is God's word to the humble. There is a way you should go and God already declare that He will instruct and teach you in the way you should go.

Psalm 25:4 " Show me your ways O lord, teach me your paths"

It can be very frustrating when you realize that you are on the wrong track. The proud cannot pray this kind of prayers. So, when you seemed not to understand your path, scriptures say you should pray that God should show you His ways.

5. The Lord Lifts the Humble

Psalm 147:6 " The Lord lifts up the humble, He casts the wicked down to the ground."

The top is for the humble, beneath is for the proud. You cannot be proud and lifted at the same time. You may be proud after you are lifted, but to be proud before you are lifted, that is not possible. God will prove you before He lifts you.

Matthew 23:12 "Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself shall be exalted."

Those who remain humble in their heart are the ones that remain lifted in the sight of many. When you go down yourself, God will lift you up. To humble yourself is to avoid thinking you are better or superior to others.

James 4:10 "Humble yourselves in the sight of God and He will lift you up."

When you humble yourself in the sight of God, He will lift you up in the sight of men. Humility comes before lifting.

1 Peter 5:6 " Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time."

Peter added due time to it. When you humble yourself this season, a due time for your lifting will come soon. God may check your humility this

season to determine your lifting next season.

Psalm 75: 5-6 reveals that God is a judge that put down one and lift up another.

He judges the proud by bringing him down and lift the humble by lifting him up. God will pronounce the command that you should be lifted when He sees humility in your heart.

6. The Lord Gives More Grace to the Humble

Proverbs 3:34 "But gives grace to the humble"

More grace can be given. Grace is not only for salvation. We are saved by grace, but we are also lifted by grace. The grace God gives the humble is special ability carryout certain things.

There's a grace you received because you believed in Jesus; There's a grace you received because you are humble.

James 4:6 "But He gives more grace"

Grace can be more. Men don't have equal grace apart from the grace for salvation. More grace is to the humble. Additional grace is added to you so you can have more.

3

How to Be Humble

1. Praying Is a Way to Be Humble

2chron. 7:14 "if my people will humble themselves, and pray and seek my face… then I will hear from heaven."

When you seek God in prayers, you have demonstrated humility before God. The secret is that if you are proud in heart and you seek God in prayer over a matter, the Lord will first bring correction to you as a way of answering your prayers.

Daniel 10:12 "Daniel humbled Himself before God in prayers."

Prayer is a system designed by God to prove their humility and dependence on Him. Scripture says humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God. Praying to God is a sign that a man has humbled

himself under God's hand.

2. Fasting Is a Way to Be Humble

Ezra 8:21 "Then I proclaimed a fast there at the river of Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God…"

Spiritual humility is also demonstrated through fasting. When you starve your flesh of food, you have shown to God that you really depend on Him and not on yourself. Ezra and others fasted to humble themselves before God.

Psalm 35:13 "I humbled myself with fasting…"

When you notice you are getting proud in heart, deliberately set time out for fasting in your heart. In fasting backed up with prayers, insight will flood your heart to show you your errors and how to remain humble forever.

3. Obedience Is a Way to Be Humble

Philippians 2:8 "He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death."

Jesus was extremely humble. Obedience is a sign of humility. To be humble is to be obedient. When you see anyone that disregard the instruction of leaders, such is not humble.

I can predict how humble you are by your obedi-

ence to the instruction given you. Arrogant people are disobedient people.

4. Right Thinking Is a Way to Be Humble

Philippians 2:3 "Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.

Humility will make you to think right. You will always think others are better than you when you are humble. According the apostolic instruction of Paul, you should regard others important than you. Until other people gain importance in your mind, you are not humble.

You may be educated more than others, that doesn't mean you should trivialize them. If your education becomes the basis of your bragging and disregards for others, then, you are not ready to rise. You must never permit what you have to cause you to trample on the personality of others.

5. Gratitude to God Is a Way of Humility

Thankfulness to God and man is a sign of humility. If you are grateful for what has been done, you are positioned for more that can be done. Arrogant people don't know how to appreciate; they are too entitled to what others have. They always feel they

are qualified for what others have. You must remain grateful to God and man to display your humility.

Errors of Leaders

When wrong people get into power, error comes from rulers and leaders. Wrong people in power will maltreat those they lead and trample upon people's emotions anyhow without considering how they feel. With this, signals and reactions will begin to spring forth from the hearts of those maltreated but they won't talk for they know the arrogance of the proud. Their silence either beckons on time to tell or their own light to appear.

When God's mercy shows up for those maltreated, God will open the eyes of the ruler or leader to the hidden pride in the heart of the wrong person in power and the maltreatment he vents on others. God opens the eyes of the leader to discern this spot ahead of the new season.

Just like the earth rotates in cycles, a new season comes that God decides who rise and who falls. When the new season appears, God will watch as the wrong person in power hardens his heart and will make decisions that will lead to his fall. This hardness of heart will not be noticeable to others except God and the ruler or leader whose eyes God has opened last season to spot the hidden pride.

What will eventually be noticeable to others is the fall of the person.

A critical point for anyone in power who may be behaving ignorantly or arrogantly unknowingly is to go to God in prayers to show him or her the errors and actions that are basepoint to his or her fall. Happy is the man whom the Lord corrects. As you humble yourself before the Lord in prayers to receive His correction, He will open your eyes to decisions and actions made out of anger, pride, ignorance or annoyance. When God opens your eyes, He has helped you. The moment you identify your errors, make adjustments immediately.

Nobody can predict events that will happen when the season of life changes. But one thing is certain, God will always reveal those who will rise or fall to anyone who has won His trust. Whether you believe or not, there are people God will always show ahead those He will promote or demote when the season shifts. You may ask Samuel if he didn't know that God rejected Saul and appointed David. Like Saul, you may be on the throne today, but a man like Samuel knew that Saul only occupies the position but had lost the influence. God may leave you in the position without knowing that God had taken away your influence.

I pray you will not be an ex-champion. If you are maltreated by any leader, just be calm, your help is

coming soon.

4

Are You Proud?

There's nothing you have now that you have not received. A man can have nothing except it's given to him. If what you have makes you proud, you stink! The moment you begin to develop a sense of importance than another, you are becoming proud.

If anyone suddenly becomes proud because of what he or she has, just be quiet and make such a case study. You will soon discover that the pride may not make the person lose what he or she has but will soon lose importance and relevance. Some people are in your life not because of what you have but because they just love you.

Pride is of the heart but soon becomes obvious through silent thoughts, decisions, speech and actions. Pride pushes people to take the honor that belongs to another. There's a point you get to, that people reject what you have because of who you are.

Great people don't hang around proud people. What you have cannot move or impress anyone who has the respect and honor of elders and others who have more than you have.

A major lesson I learned early in my life is never to let what I have or achieve enter my head, for if such is permitted, it will turn to pride in the head.

I have learned that whatever you have - influence, wealth, power, riches, wisdom, connection, comfort, and so on - should be shared with others who are connected to you who don't have it. There's a joy and peace that follows you when you help another have whatever you have.

Rather than pride yourself over what you have, share it with others connected to you or find a way to get it for them. If you can't help others get whatever you have, you may be successful, but can't be significant in their lives. There will always be someone around you that needs something you already have which you can also make available to that person. The moment you spot it, step into action immediately to get it for that person. Let your life count in the lives of others.

People don't know what others need because they don't take time to think about them. Learn to think about what you can do for others.

Always remember, History will never forget what you said while a person will never forget what you

did. Do something for someone today! Let someone rise because of you; let someone have because you gave.

I have made a promise that what I have will be shared and extend to another. No one around me will lack whatever I have the power to make available. Over the years, I have been faithful to this, I'm more committed to this again and again. What about you?

The Way Out of Pride

I got this years ago: never be proud over what you have and never be jealous over what you don't have. God will lift some people He didn't plan to lift at some seasons because some people He planned to lift became proud before their season of lifting. Many at the top today shouldn't be lifted by God yet, but they were lifted early as a replacement for those He planned to lift. Hope you know that David was a replacement plan for Saul?

There are three things you should avoid in regards to this subject which are:

1. Don't think proudly
2. Don't talk proudly
3. Don't act proudly

The root of everything starts from your thoughts.

What and how you think will affect how you speak and act. God may grant you honor; pride will cause you to lose it. There are many people in reserve as replacement for you if you ever permit pride to take over you. Pride can make you an Ichabod (departed glory). You may never understand what Ichabod means until you are brought low.

To deal with those three points:

1. Watch What You Think

Philippians 2:3-4 says

[3]Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.

[4]Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

You must always esteem (respect, admire) others better than you in your thinking. Pride will always look for your interest alone but humility seeks the interest of others. If you are only thinking about yourself and don't bother about how others will feel, you are proud.

Proverbs 16:5 says

[5]Everyone proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord; Though they join forces, none will go unpunished.

If you are proud in your mind, you are an abom-

ination to God. A Christian who's proud will still remain the son of God but also an abomination to God. Since it's not humility that got you salvation, pride can't make you lose salvation. Anyone that assumes others are not as important as him or her is proud. A thought of self-exaltation is what is regarded as pride of the heart. You are an abomination when God doesn't deem you fit for the special grace that is meant for your lifting.

2. Watch How You Talk

1 Samuel 2:3 says

[3]"Talk no more so very proudly; Let no arrogance come from your mouth, For the Lord is the God of knowledge; And by Him actions are weighed.

You might have been talking proudly, but scripture now reveals to you that you should talk no more so proudly. Let no arrogance come out of your mouth. You can't hide arrogance in your heart for long, it will one day get out of your heart. If you are ignorant, people can still counsel you but if you are arrogant, nobody will counsel you.

If you ever get to a point that nobody can counsel you, then, that could be a signal that you are arrogant. Arrogance is double ignorance.

3. Watch How You Act

Proverbs 21:24

[24]A proud and haughty man — "Scoffer" is his name; He acts with arrogant pride.

Anyone that acts proudly, scoffer is the name of such. Scripture already commands that you don't correct a scoffer least you get shame for yourself. Someone asked, who's a scoffer? Evidently, you can see for yourself in that scripture that a proud person is a scoffer. You must never permit what you know or what you have to enter your head.

You need to beware of the praises of men. I have been there before. People can praise you out of humility into pride. They didn't mean to harm you, they are sincere people who love you and just want to show that they value you. If you carry that on your head for long, you may soon begin to nurture a thought of self-exaltation that may turn into pride. What's the way out? When people praise you, appreciate them genuinely for their love and get into your privacy to return the glory to God from your heart.

Job 40:12 says

[12]Look on everyone who is proud, and bring him low; Tread down the wicked in their place.

If you act proudly, you will be brought low. Jesus humbled Himself and He ended up being highly

exalted. You should be careful when people respect and honor you more. Don't permit that to enter your head. You should be careful when some people don't respect or honor you too. Sometimes, God will permit some people to dishonor you in order to test the state of your heart. Learn to take away your eyes from how you are treated by men sometimes. If you are a leader, you may need to be patient with your people for a while if they don't accord your honor to you. Just give them time to grow. As they grow and they discover maturity in you, they will honor you.

Pride Makes God Resist a Man

To resist means to push back, push down and push far.

James 4:6 says

[6]But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

From the above verse, it's clear that God resist the proud but gives grace to the humble. The difference between the proud and humble is grace. The grace here isn't grace for salvation but special abilities God release upon men when He wants to push them higher. The grace for salvation cannot be more but special graces can be more, that's why it's stated that

God gives more grace.

Grace is one of the eight treasures God gives to lift a man. Before God will give you more grace, He will check your heart if humility is there. If it's pride He found there, He won't deposit more grace.

It's unfortunate that many didn't learn the complete lesson on humility. They were humble for a season and got lifted by God but suddenly became proud after they got lifted. That's what God hates. God didn't like it when you maltreat people because you are promoted above them. He didn't want you to be tyrannical. He didn't want you to use words to make others feel inferior. If anyone feel inferior due to your speech or action, you are proud. Many times, some people just speak proudly because of what they have or the level they are, and as such they wound the emotions of others. That's pride. I'm not referring to the wound people go through when they are corrected. I am referring to the wound you create by your arrogance. If you ever do this, you are proud.

All proud people at the top today must always remember this:

If you are proud, God will bring you down. When God brings you down, He will turn tables and creates situations that will humble you.

Daniel 4:37b says "… And those who walk in pride He is able to put down."

The Way Out of Pride

A prayer you should regularly pray is that God should help you to remain humble in thought, speech and actions.

For years, I have never stopped praying this prayers. I hope you will pray it too.

If you are humble, there's no limit to your lifting by God. I pray God will help you.

Insight for Leaders

If you want to lead successfully, you need to be very discerning. There will always be someone who represents the cord of unity and channel of authority into your life. Through that person, there will be unity in your team and additional influence will be added to your life. If through ignorance or arrogance, you lose relationship with that person, you didn't lose the relationship, you only lost two things which are:

1. Unity (cord of togetherness)
2. Authority (legal and rightful influence)

There's something you can be told and taught that will bring harmony into a team and add influence into your life. A person may talk with you for hours

but hasn't told you what you need to hear. If you don't know how to open the heart of men through honor, you may not hear what you should hear. People search for truth they could have been told or taught because don't know how to open the heart. Open the heart of counselors through honor and you will hear what they don't tell everybody.

Proverbs 20:5 (ERV)

[5]Getting information from someone can be like getting water from a deep well. If you are smart, you will draw it out.

Proverbs 20:5 (NKJV)

[5]Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water, But a man of understanding will draw it out.

Honor

Secret honor brings public recognition and recommendation. It is foolishness that makes people talk in a dishonorable manner in places.

Dishonor will make you say you don't fear anybody but God. God will even tell you He has told you in scriptures to fear some men.

Romans 13:7 reveals that you should render fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

You don't have to fail to succeed. But some people need to fail to succeed. Many are not prayerful because they haven't fail before. You don't need to fail to be prayerful. Many are not hardworking because they haven't fail before.

The purpose of failure is not to relegate you to the back. The purpose of failure is cause you to look back into past events and experiences and have reasons to push forward, committed, consistent and never give up. Failure brings redirection. Redirection of plans, focus, vision and resources.

You can't have quantum leap if you haven't failed before. Sometimes, you didn't do anything to create your failure, life just make it happen. Sometimes, when you desire to rise faster in life, be ready to fail early. 89% of those who have the story of early success have the history of past failure. It's just that they edit the part of their failure in their history. You may never know until they tell you, even if someone else tells you about them, you may doubt such fact.

Failure as an event is permitted but becoming a failure is not permitted. Yesterday's failure is to trigger creativity and diligence in you to become a success today. Go and search history, many who breakthrough massively were those who had records of failure in the past. If you have failed, you have to

know that you are not the first to fail. God will use your failure to reset you.

The fact is that the secret to the consistent success and greatness of some people was their past failure. Anytime they remember how they failed in the past, they develop fresh zeal and passion for success.

Have you failed in any area? Take your mind off the past experience and trust God to open your eyes to the new path He has prepared for you. As you shift your mind from what has happened to discover the next thing to do, God will open you up to many opportunities that lies before you.

Are you suffering from the pain of your past failure? Don't give up, get up and catch new adventure for greatness. There is greatness in you.

I pray for everyone suffering from the pain of loss or failure that God will heal your heart.

Inspired Lessons I Received

1. Every season comes with new demand and emphasis over your life. What's God's current emphasis for your life? You miss the blessings of the season when you ignore the emphasis of the season.
2. If you want to continue to advance, never come to a point that your popularity exceeds your humility. Humble people are lifted people.

Humility is a requirement to have favor with God and man. God resists the proud, men reject the proud. Humility will make God and men love you more.

3. People will betray you, but love them. You may perceive that the closest person to you think and plan evil of you, but love them. A leader should always prepare his heart ahead for betrayal so that you won't be shocked when it happens. If Jesus your Lord was betrayed by a person in His circle, why should it be strange to you when you are betrayed? Be sensitive, be like Jesus. Jesus knew early who would betray Him. You will be saved early if you are highly sensitive to pick what a person thinks and plans in his or her mind. Betrayal won't come from a stranger but from someone closer to you.
4. When you honor people, what is in them will flow towards you. You don't honor people because of their age, but for what is in them. You must honor everyone because there's something in everyone and that qualifies them to be honored. People find it difficult to honor others because they don't know what God has put in others. There's something God has put in your siblings, workers, followers, leaders that may need to flow towards your direction. Honor compels the flow.

It is Your Time and Your Turn

If you are reading this, it is your time and turn for something you have desired for a long time. Waiting is a sign of humility. It is cheer pride when a person gets out of a process before his time and turn. You are next for blessing now.

It's your time and turn for blessing, riches, promotion, prosperity, impact, greatness, Influence, dominion and many more.

You might have heard about others in your field and sphere, it's your time and turn for others to hear about you. Just wait patiently and never stop making great moves and taking giant actions. As you keep doing what you should do, God will show up suddenly and speedily to do what you can't do. He will turn your little effort into great results by turning opportunities and benefits towards your direction.

You might have celebrated others in your space and sphere, it's your time and turn for others to celebrate you.

God will announce you and what you do (your work) to those who matter. This is your time and your turn.

You must be highly excellent this time around. You must permit your excellence to speak louder than your explanation. You may need to learn new skills

and techniques. Humility will always cause you to admit that you don't yet know some things.

It takes humility to change. Before your time and turn comes, you must quickly outgrow who you used to be to become who you should be. If you talk, walk, network, respond, react, dress, negotiate, play the way you used to, you may never come into what is waiting for you. Until you change something about you, you may never see the change you desire.

Until you become who you should be, your time and turn may not recognize you when you appear. That's why you must constantly change your thinking. Your thinking must show your blessing. You will have to upgrade your inner picture to a higher version of yourself before everything looking for that picture begin to recognize and pursue you.



About the Author

Niyi Makinde is a leadership expert, quotient coach, consultant, author and a Christian minister with an apostolic calling. His passion is to raise Christian ministers and leaders like himself, as well as to help organizations and businesses maximize their potentials.

Apostle Niyi Makinde has been in Christian ministry for over 15 years. He is the President of Rebirth Global Church, a network of churches across the globe on a mission to empower believers to fulfill their God-given tasks on earth. He is an apostolic oversight and covering for many other ministries, networks and churches.

Niyi Makinde has written many books that are fast spreading across places. His books are always

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Apostle Niyi Makinde has written many other insightful and powerful books, among which are:

1. Divine Instructions
2. 12 Laws of Divine Instructions
3. Breaking Life Code
4. The Revolutionary Apostle
5. The Power to Prosper
6. The Power to Become
7. 53 Laws of Excellence
8. Church Shift
9. Business Sense
10. Dealing with Human Enemies
11. Wisdom for All-Round
12. Wisdom Power
13. Prayer Force (1)
14. Multiply
15. Tithing
16. You Are Different
17. Phronesis for Dating
18. Dating, Marriage and Sex
19. Managing Divine People
20. The Power to Get Wealth
21. Spiritual Fatherhood
22. Managing Divine People
23. Understanding Honor

24. Flourish And Grow (1)
25. Faith Dimension (1)
26. Ministry Laws (1)
27. Secrets to Supernatural (Financial) Abundance
28. Running like the Deer
29. Prayer Force (2)
30. Making Things Happen
31. You Are a Seer
32. 79 Insights Into Favor
33. New Creation
34. Prayer Education
35. 20 Facts about the Human Spirit
36. Supernatural Visions
37. Understanding Church Systems
38. 11 Facts about the Human Mind
39. The Holy Spirit
40. Dominion in the Realm of Abundance
41. Soul Winning Manual
42. Maintaining Sound Health
43. Faith for Abundance
44. New Levels
45. Wisdom for Abundance
46. The Power of Meditation
47. Understanding Supernatural Dreams
48. Stop Multiplying in Affliction
49. Communication Ethics in Ministry
50. Ministry Ethics (1)
51. Warfare for Honor

52. Wave of Increase
53. Praise for Favor
54. Ministers Training Manual
55. Breaking Joy Code
56. The Power of His Name
57. You Are a wonder
58. Roar and Soar
59. The Minister and the Ministry
60. Grace Factor
61. Subdue and Dominate
62. Flourish and Grow (2)
63. Overtake
64. Victory over Afflictions
65. The Power of Patience
66. Stand out to Step out
67. Shining like the Sun
68. 30 Channels of Wealth
69. Breaking into Laughter
70. The Power to Dominate
71. Enjoying Health
72. Stronger than the stronger
73. Battle for Wealth
74. Wealth Transfer
75. Maximum Protection
76. The Power to Be on Time
77. Power Activators
78. The Essence of Obedience
79. The Power of words

80. Planting a Branch Church
81. Power Dimensions (1)
82. The Power to Live Long
83. The Power to Deliver
84. The Power to Bless
85. Raising the Dead
86. The Power to Heal
87. The Power to Separate
88. Your Reality Today (Yoreto)