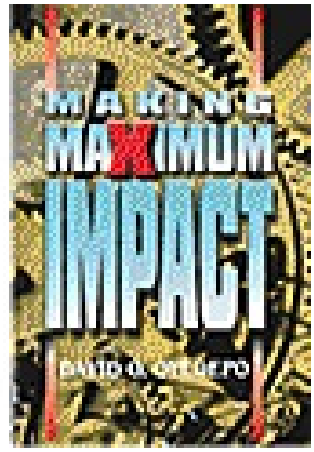


Dominion House



Chapter 3

INSIGHT FOR IMPACT

Two motor mechanics run their workshops side by side. The first one appears to struggle with every vehicle that comes to him for repairs. He does not seem to know what to o. Obviously he does not have adequate knowledge about cars. Everyone who takes his car to him leaves dissatisfied. Soon, word begins to spread that he does not know the job.

The second mechanic is very different. Just by listening to the sound of your car engine running, he can tell what is wrong with it. So without much ado, he bends down to rectify the problem and in no time, the car is in good working condition. So you tell your friends, "I have a mechanic who is such a wonderful craftsman. He can fix any car." Before long, that motor mechanic begins to make impact in that environment. Why? He has adequate knowledge of his job!

Knowledge is what determines the degree of impact anybody makes. The deeper the knowledge, the greater the impact. There is simply no short cut to it. Impact is a direct product of insight. That is why Daniel 11:32 says: *And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.* Those who know their God are the ones that will

command attention by reason of their results. They will stand out as a city set on a hill, which cannot be hid. They will obtain outstanding breakthroughs!

In these end-times, the results coming from the Church will be so amazing they will humble sinners. Our generation will bow in awe at the things God will be doing through us. Don't label yourself unlucky. You are not unlucky; you are not disadvantaged, or unfortunate, all that you are suffering today is a special case of ignorance!

You are not a failure because somebody is against you, you are a failure because you don't know what it takes to be a success! God says:

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children. ***Hosea 4:6***

Unfortunately, many Christians blame the devil for their lack of success. But as a wise man once said, "You are not a failure until you start looking for who to blame for it."

If the devil could not stop others from succeeding, how is he able to stop you? The devil does not have the nature of love in him, so the issue is not that there are some people he loves! The Bible calls him "the wicked"; his very nature is wickedness. If others are making it, surely the devil is no excuse for failure. There is no mountain anywhere, every man's

ignorance is his mountain!

You Need A Word Encounter Read this story carefully:

And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Gennesaret, And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets. And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship.
Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.
And when they had this done, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink.
When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken: And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men.
Luke 5:1-10

The fishermen in this narrative were already, worn out and frustrated when Jesus entered into their ship and instructed them to thrust out a little from the land. After ministering to the people he said to Peter, *"Launch out into the deep, an let down your nets for a draught"*. Peter argued that they had toiled all night and had taken nothing. Then he said, *"...nevertheless at thy word..."*.

This story adequately describes the situation many believers find themselves today. Jesus has entered into their lives as Lord and Saviour just as He entered Peter's boat (Remember we are vessels of mercy according to Romans 9:23) but, they are still frustrated, because the presence of Jesus in ones life does not mean an automatic access to breakthroughs.

What triggers off the miraculous in your life is, *"Nevertheless at thy word"*. It is the Word of God at work in you that determines your worth in life. To make maximum impact, you must respond positively to the Word of God. Perhaps you have toiled all night and caught nothing, but if you will give heed to the Word you will not only enclose a great multitude of fish, the kind that breaks nets, you will also need to beckon on others to come and help. That's maximum impact! It takes an encounter with the Word of God to become a man and a woman of impact. It is the Word that brings an end to frustration, stagnation and humiliation. Looking at Peter, you will discover that the encounter he had with God's Word not only ended his life of misery, it enabled him to make the kind of impact that is still being felt years after his death. That can be your own

testimony too! Think about it, if creation, the greatest event in human history, came as a result of the Word of God, the greatest impact a man can make will have to be as a result of the Word.

A woman met me sometime ago (at the site of our new church auditorium), and she testified that when she first came to the church four years ago, she could barely clothe and feed herself. But as at the time we were talking, she had bought a ship and was requesting for a pastor to come and dedicate it. I asked her, "Do you mean a boat or a ship?"

She said, "a ship". According to her, it was the Word she had been hearing from the altar that turned her life around.

If you want to become a man of impact, your responsibility is to get addicted to the Word of God. It will cheaply make a star out of you. There are quite a number of successful men and success motivation speakers in the world. They have a lot of ideas, keys and secrets of success which they peddle, however none is comparable to the secrets in the Word of God. The Word is tried and tested; it is infallible. Its source is eternal, so its effect is universal. I can count on every word written there. It contains all you need to make maximum impact on the earth.

Job was a man who impacted his generation tremendously. He had so much possessions that he was known as the greatest man in the East. The East at that time was the centre of civilisation, so Job was the greatest man in the greatest country of the world. That man made so much impact that he

even commanded the attention of the devil. The truth of the matter is that you can never command the attention of the devil, until your life becomes a threat to his kingdom; and nothing threatens him like a life of impact. What then was Job's secret? *When his candle shined upon my head, and when by his light I walked through darkness;* ***Job 29:3*** Job became a man of impact through the secrets of God he had contacted. At the root of every revolution is revelation, and the basis for every transformation is information. It was the information Job had access to that transformed him to a man of impact.

We are in the success age of the Church, but what the Church needs to accomplish anything is information. That should not be a problem because we have the richest information bank available to any group of people, and we are connected to the original source of life, God Almighty!

A young man came up to me one day and said, "Sir, you said something last year, and it has come to pass in my life. You said that by September, 5,000 people in this church would have become millionaires. I am one of them!" If this young man had not shared his testimony with me, I never would have guessed that he was a millionaire because he did not look it. Yet all that God had done in his life, is a function of his response to the secrets of God's Word that were unfolded to him.

If you will take time out to locate the secrets of God, you will become a man to be reckoned with on the earth. All a man needs to live a prosperous life and enjoy good success is

contained in the Word of God. That is why God commanded Joshua to embrace it and make it his way of life, if he desired to have good success:

This book of the law shall not depart from thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therin day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good Success. ***Joshua 1:8***

The Word of God is our manual for living. Adhering to the instructions contained therein will result in a glorious and colourful life as God declares in Deuteronomy 28:1 ... *if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which l command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:* This scripture makes it clear that there is a way to put the Word to work, for it to place you far above the nations of the earth. That way is, to observe to do all that the Word says.

That explains why Jesus told Peter: “Launch out into the deep”. Every fisherman knows that the fish of great value are located in deep waters. All that is found in shallow waters are tilapia and frogs. The amazing sea creatures like whales, sharks and dolphins, are in the sea.

If you must live an impactful life, you must be prepared to launch deep into the Word. Every launch into the deep results in an amazing catch. When Peter obeyed and thrust out, he

caught more than he bargained for. When Joshua paid attention to the Word, it ushered him into a life of impact. The Word is what you need to make lasting impact on the earth.

On a trip I took to East Africa, I observed that everyone who stood up to share a testimony said, "I am saved and love the Lord." So I told them, "It is not enough to be saved and love the Lord, you must be saved and filled with the Word, if you desire to make impact!"

Jesus knew that there are many things vying for our attention, yet He told Martha that only one thing is needful to make life meaningful, and that thing is the Word of God. Until you give maximum attention to the Word, you never make maximum impact.

For instance, once you locate the truth on divine healing and seize it, you become eternally free from the harassment of sickness. The same thing applies to financial prosperity, success, *etc*. Nobody recovers without a tangible discovery from God's Word. No doubt, a discovery is the believer's guarantee for recovery.

Here is a proof of what I am saying as shared by a sister in the church:

I was a trained secretary and I was working as one until 1991 when my husband insisted that he will like me to join him in his boutique where he sells imported wears. I joined him, but I was not fulfilled and wasn't happy. I started seeking God's face for

what to do. As I was studying the Bible one day, I got to where Joseph was prospered as a houseboy. I was so excited, so I started asking questions in my mind. And then the Holy Spirit ministered to me that if God can prosper a houseboy, then as a wife I can be prosperous in my own husband's house. I became relaxed from then.

So I started searching through the scriptures again and I got to where God gave Moses the description of how to build the tabernacle. God told him that he has put in some people, the spirit to make artistic designs.

I discovered from there that it is not that they actually went to school to learn, but through the Spirit of God upon them, they had inspiration and they were able to accomplish the task. From these, it was like the word was being lifted from the pages of the Bible and somebody was really talking to me. I knew there and then that I have the gift of God on my inside to make designs.

I also discovered from Proverbs 31 that the virtuous woman had her own business. She bought a vineyard even from her own purse. So I realised I must be an asset to my husband, my children and even to my in-laws and everybody that God has brought my way. That made me really settle down to put my hands to work.

I started out with just a tailor. By the grace of God, today I have about twelve tailors with small domestic machines. Also we have about twelve industrial machines, buttonhole and

hemming machines, and four embroidery machines. — ***Banjo, A.*** Everything a person becomes is a function of the discoveries he has made. So how do you make the necessary discoveries? **Study!** *Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. **2 Timothy 2:15*** The art of studying involves a conscious search for facts, a search for heavenly information that will ultimately produce earthly transformation. That is what it means to study. Note, however, that the main purpose of your study is to show yourself approved unto God. It is when you are approved of God that you have proofs. Once there are proofs, impact is guaranteed. To rightly divide the Word of truth means to know which scripture is most appropriate to handle a particular situation. It is knowing where to draw the light required to produce your desired result. Anyone who refuses to study is preparing for a life of shame.

Life does not answer to luck, it answers to light. Many people have been suffering, waiting for a day when things will get better. But their suffering will not cease until the Word comes. Success in life is not a function of chance, but of choice. Until you choose knowledge, your struggle continues!

I am persuaded that no one succeeds by chance, no one makes things happen by accident. Impact is a product of secrets discovered. Apostle Paul, was a man of tremendous impact; although the last to join the apostles, he became the chief. But his rise was far from being accidental. He was a very studious man — carrying his notes and books everywhere, as revealed

in his letter to Timothy:

The cloak that I left at Troas with Carpus, when thou comest, bring with thee, and the books, but especially the parchments. ***2 Timothy 4:13*** He was a man who dug deep into the scriptures, understanding its mysteries above all of his peers. Ultimately he wrote 50 per cent of the New Testament. Impact is a product of insight!

One of the most outstanding men in scriptures is Daniel. Although a captive, he made tremendous impact in Babylon because of the secrets of God at his disposal. None of the wise men of the land could equal the depth of insight he had. Daniel proved time and time again that the secrets of God are superior to the secrets of men. God's ways are higher than man's ways and His thoughts than man's thoughts; even His foolishness is wiser than the wisdom of men!

As intelligent as Daniel was, it was obvious that his secret lay in his access to divine insights which he contacted by studies. He himself said he *"understood by books..."* (Daniel 9:2). Paul too was a man of tremendous unction, yet he could not do without studying. Nothing can take the place of a studious life, not your gift, and definitely not the anointing! The Word of God is the main text for all round success. It addresses all issues of life, and answers all man's questions. That explains why no student of the Word is a failure in the world.

A young man was diagnosed as being HIV positive. He remembered hearing me share how another lady with the same

problem had triumphed over it through knowledge. He got some tapes, bought a walkman and began listening to the Word, checking through the scriptures as well.

He later went for tests twice, and came with the results, as evidence as he shared the testimony of his healing. Both tests confirmed him HIV negative! Friend, every question in life has an answer in the Word of life! Everything that makes for life and godliness is ours potentially. However, for them to become ours in reality, we need knowledge:

Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:
2 Peter 1:2-3

The things you need can be purchased through knowledge. Until you find it in the Word, it never comes to pass in your life. Even in the natural, a discovery always precedes a recovery. For instance, when a man loses his goods, and reports the incident to the Police, they begin a search. Until the missing goods are discovered, they cannot be recovered. That is why it is fool hardiness to talk about a recovery when there has been no discovery. It is therefore necessary that you undertake a discovery mission in the challenging areas of your life. You must embark on a deliberate search for facts, and if your situation is desperate, desperately search out the facts

that can deliver answers to you. I don't care what you are looking for. It is in the Word, all you need to do is search for it. If you search the first time and do not find it, search again. If you research and still do not find it research! Don't stop searching until you find it. Why? It is there.

Unfortunately, many Christians give up too soon. They search the scriptures once, and if they don't find what they are looking for, they give up! But if they lose a thing of value in their bedroom, they will sweep until they find it. In fact, if it is not located the first time, they will sweep again and again, sometimes lifting up the carpet, shaking it desperately, because they believe it must be there!

I have not arrived where I am in God by chance, I got there by searching, researching and researching. Many years ago, I embarked on a desperate search for the secret of prosperity. I wanted to know how to access, operate and maintain it. I separated myself for three days and took along with me three books - one by Kenneth Copeland and another by his wife Gloria and the Book of books, the Bible. By the third day, I found it. My eyes opened and my understanding blossomed. Immediately, I knew I could never be poor again!

I may not be the wealthiest man, but I know I am one of the wealthiest men in the kingdom.

My son, eat thou honey, because it is good; and the honeycomb, which is sweet to thy taste: So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found

it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off.
Proverbs 24:13-14

Until you have found what you are looking for, you cannot have proofs. The world is tired of stories, excuses and explanations from you, now it wants to see proofs. It is not interested in how grammatically correct your English is; it wants to know how much impact you are making.

You will observe that when a man goes to the bank to withdraw money, it is not his English diction that determines whether or not he is able to withdraw money. All that commands respect is the amount he has in his account. In this kingdom, what commands results is how much knowledge you have.

Take the issue of marriage and family life for instance. In no other area of life have people been as battered. When I was growing up, I saw first hand, the perils of marriage. One of our neighbours had turned his living room into a boxing ring, and his wife into a punching bag! It was a very disheartening sight, which made me to decide I did not need marriage.

When I came to the Lord and came of age, I asked the Lord His purpose for instituting marriage and how I could get the best out of it. In my search and hours of meditation, I contacted seven power keys to a hitch-free, problem-free, crisis-free home. I discovered that like prosperity, marriage is not a promise but a covenant. So if I do what is expected of me, I will not even need to pray before success in family life will become

mine.

I also found that marriage is meant to be a plus not a minus; it is for a lifting and not for demotion. By instituting marriage, God was not looking for how to make life worse for man but how to improve it. Marriage is definitely not for better and worse as the catechists would have us believe; it is for better and better!

What about Church growth? Well, our church is not growing by chance, but by knowledge of God's secret of church growth. God told me, "Keep sowing the seed, and as the grass grows, the sheep will come for it." Jeremiah 3:14-15 says,

Turn, O backsliding children, saith the LORD;for I am married unto you: and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion:
And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

From this passage, it occurred to me that as long as I am feeding the people with wisdom and knowledge, the church will keep multiplying and increasing. Acts 6:7 confirms this: *And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith.* So, any pastor who wishes to see his church grow must feed the flock with life applicable teaching, not religious dogma. As a boy growing up, I watched how my grandmother tended her livestock. In those days the houses were not fenced, so domestic animals moved freely

from house to house.

However, I noticed that any time my grandmother was going to feed her livestock, other animals from neighbouring places would gather as well. Try hard as she may, she could never chase them away. Even if she tried to, they always returned, because their owners did not bother to feed them.

God reminded me of this incident to teach me how to grow a church. All a pastor needs to do is to give the flock fresh food and the sheep will lie down content. The psalmist said: *"He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters."* (Psalm 23:2)

The important thing here is that it is not just food —, but fresh food *"green pastures"*. That is how our church has kept on taking giant strides, recording remarkable increases annually. Nothing commits God to perform like discovered truth. Once you have found it, God is committed to confirm it, because He cannot deny Himself. I also found divine health through a studious search I have not always been healthy. If anything, I was a sickly boy and worst of all, I had tuberculosis. One day however, my eyes opened to Matthew 8:17 which says, *That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.* I concluded that if He "took" my infirmities and bore my sicknesses, then I cannot have them. Discovery is the fastest route to having strong influence. Even in the world we live in, a discoverer never really dies. His breath may stop, but his

discoveries live on. Several generations after, men will still be celebrating them. The main problem with believers is that although they know that the Bible contains all the answers to the questions of life, they are half-hearted in their search. Its time to give it all you've got. In Luke 15:8, Jesus shares a parable about a woman who lost a piece of silver. To locate it, she lit a candle and sought for it diligently until she found it. The point of emphasis here is that she lit a candle.

Proverbs 20:27 says *"The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly."* All that makes for life and godliness is in the 'belly' of God and only your spirit can search it out. That is why until your spirit is active in your search for answers, heaven may not reckon with your efforts.

It Is A Personal Responsibility Responsibility is the price of greatness. There is no free lunch in life. If you do not want to die a liability, you must accept responsibility. Remember what happened in the days of Elisha: The widow of one of the sons of the prophets was about to lose her two sons to her husband's creditors, so she ran to Elisha for help. He asked her, "What hast thou in thine house?" Until she remembered that she had a little oil, she did not procure her miracle solution. Friend, there's a price to pay for a life of impact, it is the discovery and application of the truth. One secret discovered is enough to shoot a man to the top. I see you getting there, in Jesus' name! 