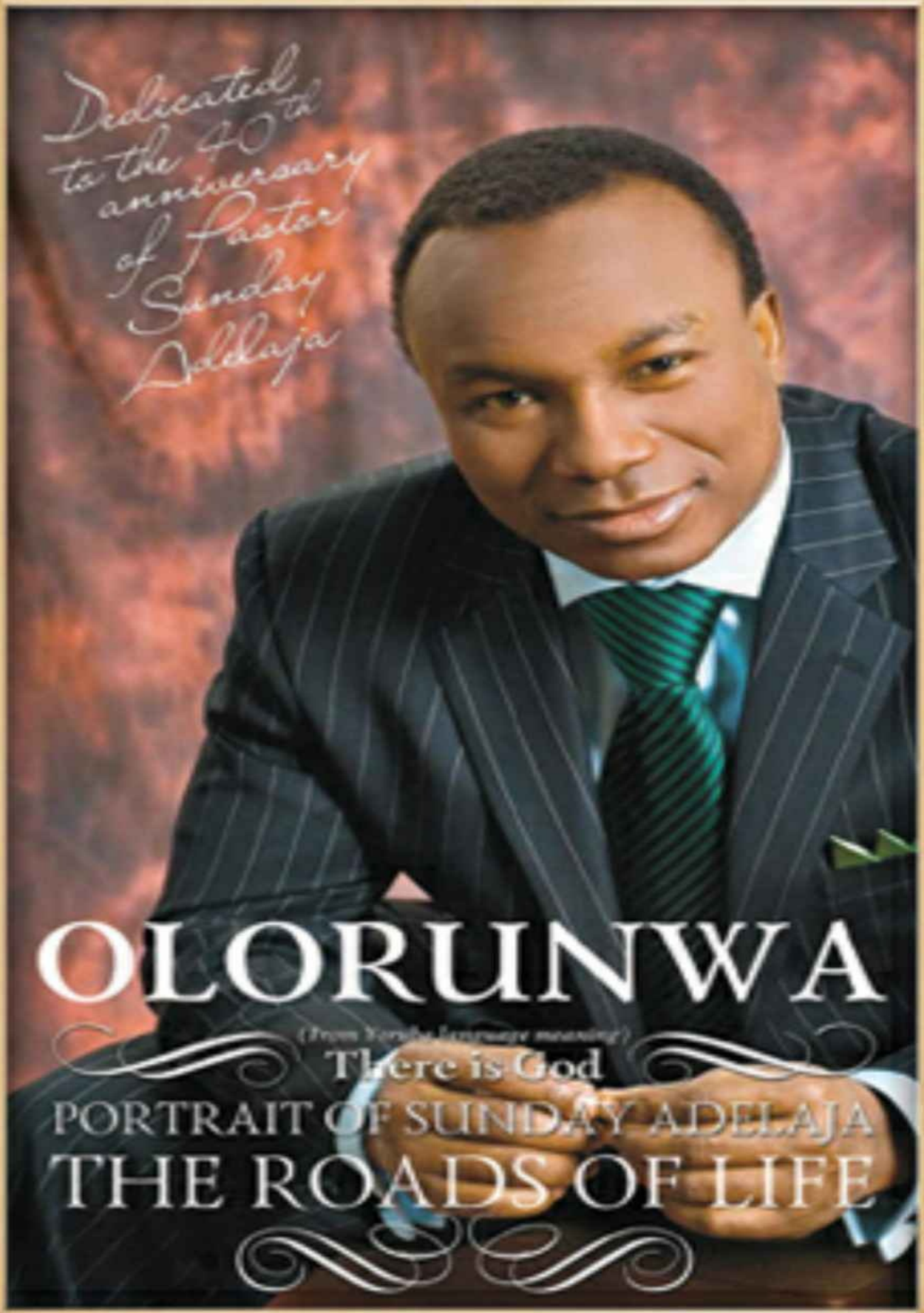

Dedicated to the 40th anniversary of Pastor Sunday Adelaja
OLORUNWA
(From Yoruba language meaning)
There is God
PORTRAIT OF SUNDAY ADELAJA
THE ROADS OF LIFE

# To the memory of Rachel Adelaja

## Second Edition

Milton Keynes
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Second Edition

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Sunday Adelaja
*Scripture quotations in this book are taken from the New King James version of the Bible*

Sunday Adelaja was born on May 28, 1967. Continent — Africa, country – Nigeria, state – Ogun, province – Odomila, tribe — Yoruba. His full name – Sunday Olasunkanmi Adewali

Oluwatoin Oluwakemi Temitope Temitayo Adelaja

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# From

## the publisher

**Life is given to man only once, And he must live it in such A way so that later he wouldnt feel Painfully ashamed of the years Wasted without purpose. — Nikolai Ostrovsky**

FROM THE PUBLISHER
H

ave you ever met anybody in your life who can teach you how to live? I was lucky in this regard and I am grateful to God for the privilege to know

and to fellowship with Pastor Sunday Adelaja. He helped me to become a complete person when I was broken, rejected, insecure and miserable and did not see any meaning in life. Now, I am a woman who has life goals and able to attain them. And, there are hundreds of thousands of others just like me around the world.

I can not stop thanking Pastor Sunday and be amazed at his great heart, full of love for God and people. “I am a bridge over which anybody can walk and become fulfilled”, he says. That is how he lives. He pastors a church of 25,000 strong members in Kyiv with over 500 parishes all over the world, written over 70 books, recorded over 3,000 sermons in audio and video. He travels all over the world preaching and all this is for one reason only — to help each one of us to become happy and fulfilled.

7

**OLORUNWA**

Pastor Sunday grew up without a father and had to overcome many obstacles, nevertheless, he accomplished many things and has now become a world-famous person. He knows how to help you! The life story of the 40-yearold Sunday Adelaja that you will find in this book is an undeniable proof that people are not born great, but become great.

Human nature always tends to find excuses for its failures. Often, we do not like our social status or the circumstances in which we find ourselves but we do not work enough to change the status quo. Many people think that they would certainly become successful and famous if only they were born in a different family, in a different city, in a different time, etc. But few ask themselves daily; what exactly they have done today for their future? Remember that life is predictable, and that you have a significant role to play in determining where you will be in the future.

You should never compromise your attitude or consent to the things that you do not like in your life. Do not allow anybody, neither the devil, people nor circumstances to steal your future! Fight and win! Become great, rich and famous! That is what you are made to be and in the end, let the whole world talk about you!

However, do not forget to give God the glory for everything in your life.

It is a great honor for all of us here at Fares Publishing House to be a part of this great project — the publishing of the life story of this great man, Pastor Sunday Adelaja, who helped change the lives of millions of people. And this is just the beginning!

*Alyona Dobrovolskaya, General Director, Fares Publishing House*

# Introduction

INTRODUCTION
I

f you ever visit Nigeria, you can imagine everything that surrounded the main character of this book at childhood. The backward village where he grew up, the

forest where he gathered wood, the old shack where he slept on the floor…

You would never have believed that something good could come out of such surroundings. But the President of Nigeria, Olusegun Obasanjo, says that Sunday Adelaja is the best representative of his country with a 140 million population.

In the course of writing this biography, Pastor Sunday wanted, most of all, that while reading his life's story people would realize that there is nothing impossible for God and that anybody, even the most hopeless people, who live in very bad adverse circumstances and were discouraged by others, can accomplish as much and far above, what pastor Sunday has accomplished with God.



Pastor Sunday in his faithful nature consistently testifies about his life not only to encourage and strengthen but to raise people all over the world to new heights. This book illustrates a great deal of his entire life story, which by the grace of God will impact yours.

# Foreword

FOREWORD
M

y dear reader, I have decided to write this letter to all the people that God used to influence me and bless my life in one way or the other. These

people have been a blessing to me and they are the ones, whom God has used to make me who I am today. This year, 2007, on May 28, I turn 40 years old.

The year 2007 marks my 40th birthday! I cannot believe time has gone by so fast and that that little boy who used to be known as Sunday Olorunwa Adelaja in such a small village of Idomila, in such a short time, has grown up to be a mature man. Before now, I could not really call my self a fully grown up man but, now, at the age of 40, I think I can confidently say that I have become a man. A man, that God has decided to raise up for Himself. A man, not of his own but of God! Moreover, God has decided to make this little boy from a small village of less than 200 people a world wide voice for Himself and an ambassador



for the whole continent of Africa, especially for his native land of Nigeria. It is amazing what God has done. There is no man that could have ever done this on his own.

I grew up in very humble surroundings. I never have and never will meet my biological father. The surname that I bear today, Adelaja, is actually my mother's surname because I never knew my father. As I was told, my mother was brought back to her family home, after she was abused and beaten by her husband — my father. By the time, my mother was sent away from his house and brought back to her home, fortunately or unfortunately, she had conceived. She was about six months pregnant when she left her husband's house and she never went back to that house again. The fruit of that pregnancy is what the world has come to know as Pastor Sunday. Therefore, I feel that there is a truth in the saying, "God is a God of destiny — and there is no mistake in God." My life has proven to be a confirmation of that truth. Even, as I am speaking, I will never know, mainly, because I am not interested in knowing, the surname or family name of my mother's first husband that happened to be my father. I feel that God just needed a life to be born because God has a plan for it, like we see in Jeremiah 1:4,5.

God has called and elected me from my mother's womb.

However, the reason I am writing you today is just to show you my gratitude. Looking back at my forty years of life, I have decided to write a letter of gratitude and appreciation, a thank-you-note to all the people who have influenced and helped me become who I am today. As you all know, we are all a by-products of what we have learnt, the people we have met, the experiences we have had and the



lessons we have learnt in life. Hence, the person who Pastor Sunday became today is a combination of the riches, resources and wealth that God has developed and placed in the life of several men that he has met or came across so far in life.

We all know that men are either grateful or take things for granted. I have decided to be grateful because if you are not grateful for what you have received, you do not deserve any other blessing.

I would like to show my gratitude to God and likewise to all the people God has used to make me who I am today. I have come up with a long list of names. Though, I know that I cannot remember everybody, nevertheless, I will show my gratitude and appreciation to everybody that has played a significant role in my life. I thank God for what you have done in my life. Maybe, I have never told you before or you are not aware of the role you have played in my life but I want you to know that you are one of the people who have molded the person Sunday is today. May your life continue to be a blessing to the whole world just as it has been a blessing to me.

On behalf of myself, family and the ministry God has trusted into my hands, I wish to thank you dearly. Yours forever,

*Sunday Adelaja, Senior Pastor, The Embassy of the Blessed Kingdom of God for All Nations, Kyiv, Ukraine*

# CHAPTER 1

# The

## Beginnings

The heart of Africa is full of singing and fire, And I know that if we sometimes see The dreams we cannot find any names for, They are brought by your wind, Africa!

## — Nikolai Gumilev, Russian poet.

AMONGTHEANCIENTBAOBABTREES…
I

magine ocean waves gently running over sandy shores. Warm sunshine caressing branches of the palm trees on white beaches. This is how Africa looks for those

who approach it from the Gulf of Guinea.

Nigeria’s former capital, Lagos city, is also its country’s major seaport and industrial center. Its endless chain of colorful markets stretching along the roads and hordes of youngsters selling all kinds of things welcome tourists, making an impression of sights, sounds and culture they will not easily forget. Modern travelers grow fonder of this rapidly developing and lively city of Lagos. This is how they usually describe it.

If you leave the noisy city and follow the coastline, you will soon be surrounded by mangrove forests and swamps, the territory of crocodiles, monkeys and snakes. From there, if you move northward, you can hide in the cool shade of the deep tropical forest, rich in precious wood. There, on the red-and-yellow soil, the vine-covered redwood trees and palm trees grow in the favorably humid equatorial climate. The forest is home to many other species virtually unknown to the Europeans, like the tall chlorophora or the hard-resin tryplochyton. Those who dwell in the nearby villages venture into these forests to gather wood and edible fruit. It is here we will soon picture a little barefooted black-skinned boy closely following his grandmother and not having the faintest idea of what his destiny would be.

The tropical forest air carries all kinds of jungle noises like the screams of

monkeys, mostly baboons and marmosets acting as though they are kings of the jungle. You can also hear the rustling of very tall grass, almost like human and enormous leaves, the buzzing of all kinds of insects, sighs of hippopotamuses in a river that cuts through the forest and the loud calls of exotic, tropical birds. They are all melodies of the jungle's symphony.

This is what the south-western part of Nigeria looks and feels like. To the north, it changes into savannas that gradually transform into the Sahara desert as you continue moving northward.

## NIGERIA'S BEGINNINGS

In January of 1897, the word Nigeria first appeared on the pages of *"The Times"* in London. It was derived from the name of the river Niger, which means black. River Niger is the third largest river in Africa after the Nile and the Congo. If not for the eighteenth century European explorers who became interested in this river, history could have taken another course. By the eighteenth century, Europeans had already explored the shores of Africa and colonized them. The richer African countries were situated deeper into the continent from where the caravans traveled to the shores, carrying ivory, ostrich feathers, leather, wax and gold. The caravan owners spoke of mysterious rich countries that were sited along the great river's shores towards the east.

James Bruce, from Scotland, did much to discover the mystery of Nigeria in the late 1760$^{s}$, followed by his countryman, Mungo Park, whose first trip to Africa started on the 22$^{nd}$ of May, 1795.

As he prepared for his trip, the young Scot read through all the logs of the explorers who had visited these places before him. But, when he finally came to the shores of the Niger, he was amazed at how lively and densely populated they were. In fact, modern Nigeria, with 140 million people, has the largest population among other African countries, according to statistics; one out of five blacks in the world is a Nigerian.

Mungo Park did not get to set foot on the land we now know as Nigeria. His expedition along the Niger ultimately cost him his life. But, after his journey, Nigeria appeared on the maps during the colonization of Africa which took place in the end of nineteenth and throughout the beginning of the twentieth century.

This African country stretches over 1,200 kilometers from the humid shores of the Guinean Gulf covered with tropical forests in the south, to the arid savannas in the north.

The predominating southwest monsoons that bring abundant rainfall cause the relative air humidity to reach almost 100% in the south, but in the northern part of the country the harmattan, a dry dusty wind that blows along the northwest coast of Africa, blows during most of the year.

The largest part of Nigeria is in the equatorial monsoon climate zone, which is characterized by its two seasons — a rainy summer and a dry winter. The dry season is tough — people's noses and throats get dry, lips chaff, the skin on their hands cracks and those who walk barefoot suffer from deep, sore wounds on their feet. The harmattan sometimes comes with outbreaks of cerebrospinal meningitis, which claims many lives and leaves people crippled.

After the harmattan subsides, rain showers fall over almost the entire country. During the change of seasons, there are many short rain squalls; continuous lightning flashes followed by resounding thunderclaps that can be heard from 20–30 kilometers distance. The torrential rains and hurricanes are especially heavy in the northern part of the country, where they are called "hadari." Very often, they cause much damage, uprooting trees, taking off the roofs of buildings, washing away roads, etc. In the South, the humid season is the longest. It lasts for, at least, eight months, causing the flora to produce two harvests a year. Due to the spectrum of natural habitats in Nigeria, it is sometimes referred to as a miniature of West Africa.

In addition to the variety of natural conditions, Nigeria is also known for its plentiful mineral resources. It is rich in rare metals, coal, oil (Nigeria holds the seventh place in world oil production), natural gas, limestone, gold and many other mineral resources.

The vast plateaus take up about two thirds of Nigerian territory, and the rest are plains. The plain on the shore is one of the most developed regions in the country. Almost all her large cities and about a half of the nation's population are located at this plain. In this area, you will find the largest cocoa, hevea and palm tree plantations. The humid rainforest of the shore plain is rich in precious wood. This is where the story told on the pages of this book had its beginning…

# THE ROOT

The small village of Idomila is located at about one and half hours drive from the Atlantic shore, in Lagos, and two kilometers from the interior part of the South West city of Ijebu-ode. Ijebu-Ode is home to over 300,000 Ijebu people who harvest cocoa, palm nuts and cola nuts, collect natural rubber and live, mostly, as legendary traders.

Idomila, however, consists of forty houses when the main character of this book lived. Less than two hundred inhabitants consider themselves part of the Yoruba tribe, the second largest ethnic group in Africa that forms the oldest nations in this part of Africa. Archeological excavations show that the Yoruba people have had a distinctive civilization since the beginning of the last millennium. There are many legends and several scientific hypotheses about the genesis of this tribe, but to date, there are no findings to confirm any. The majority of Yoruba people live in the Western states of Nigeria, where they make out over 90% of the total population. They speak Yoruba language, which originated from Guinean. It is this language that our story's hero spoke until he turned 19 and left to study abroad.

Despite the buzz of modern day life just around the corner, it seems that time stood still for Idomila's traditional community. A typical day for Idomila is calm and slow. The elderly people look after the small children playing in the red mud naked after the rains, the youth who can afford it travel to the nearest town every day to go to school. The rest spend the day farming or trading in order to sustain daily living.

Idomila also has its own 'king.' Every now and then he would sit on a mat just outside the doors of his royal house. Mungo Park described the chief of one of the African tribes in his log, capturing a sense of mysticism and magic. He wrote: "His hands, wrists and ankles are decorated with rings and bracelets made of gold and ivory. He also wears antelopes' horns and amulets against evil spirits including evil eyes, around his neck. The king's 'court officials' clap their hands and sing songs of praise to him." But the Yorubas did not only reverend their kings, they also hold kingship system in high esteem.

Before European settlers and the advent of Christianity, the Yoruba were polytheists, that is, they worshiped different gods. According to the spiritual hierarchy of their beliefs, the greatest god would be the ones symbolizing the

primary powers of nature. For example, the Yoruba have a god called “Olorun,” who is the God of heaven and the Lord of all there is.

Olorunwa, the title of this book and the name of our main character, translates from Yoruba as *“There is God indeed”* or *“God indeed exists.”* Today, many Yoruba people consider themselves Christians. There is even an Anglican church at the center of the small village of Idomila, where on Sundays the king and his subjects attend the service. But, in spite of all this, the traditional beliefs and cults still influence the Christian life of many Yoruba people. For instance, the king has several wives, which contradicts Christian belief, and many children. All his sons, being of royal descent must receive good education. His daughters, however, are not eligible. In the olden days, it is considered a waste to spend money on education for female children because they will get married and leave the family anyway. But one young princess was too sick to care about studying.

In young Teniola’s days, she was suffering from acute stomach pains. The king had hired a personal doctor to help her but after numerous attempts; he could not ease the pain.

Several years later, when Teniola finally went to the hospital with her fiance to find out the cause of her pains, the doctor said that she will never be able bear children. Her fiance, as a result, cancelled their courtship. She was heartbroken, but her mother, Rachel, one of the Kings’ wives did not concede to this situation and kept encouraging her daughter, “You will have children, you’ll see!”

OLORUNWA

Princess Teniola was a hard working and very desirable woman. She was engaged to a much older man, who married her, but for some reason the marriage did not work out. Her relatives found out that her husband, a drunkard, was aggressive towards her and abused her. They rightfully considered their son-in-law’s behavior unacceptable as well as insulting to their royal clan. Finally, at a family council, they decided to withdraw her back from the husband not knowing that, by this time, Teniola was already six months pregnant. Some time later, her husband and his relatives came to Teniola and asked her to return but nothing could change the family’s decision. That is why the baby was not born at his father’s house as usual for the Yoruba but at the home to his mother, grandmother and other members of this large family.

The baby's relatives were so glad at the event of his birth that everyone considered it a personal obligation to give him a name. That is how this little boy ended up with no less than eight names.

Besides the name, "Olorunwa" that his grandmother Rachel gave him, he was also called:
— *Sunday* — he was born on this day of the week.

— *Olasunkanmi* — meaning, "honor, glory and wealth have come close to me."
— *Adewale* — "The kingdom (or crown) has returned home."
— *Oluwatosin* — "The Lord is worthy of praise."
— *Oluwakemi* — "The Lord cares for me."
— *Temitope* — "I have to give praise to God." — *Temitayo* — "I have to rejoice."

His surname *Adelaja*, which the boy received from his mother, means "The one who reconciles people" in Yoruba language.

Rachel did not call him Olorunwa without any reason. In Yoruba, the name means *"There is God."* How could anyone doubt that there is a God, if her daughter Teniola, who was diagnosed with infertility, could give birth to her grandson? Grandma Rachel would console Teniola saying, "Yes, it's true that the boy doesn't have a father but he has God who will care for him like nobody else!"

Rachel who raised him from the age of three, never let go of this revelation that God has a purpose for Sunday's life and, in the face of hardship and troublesome times, this is what she proclaimed over the boy: "Olorunwa."

A PROPHET TO THE NATIONS

Allow us to point out that Sunday, Olasunkanmi, Olorunwa, Adewale, Oluwatoyin, Oluwakemi, Temitope, Temitayo, Adelaja, without God Almighty's divine intervention, might not have been born.

First, his mother's infertility was medically diagnosed by doctors. Therefore, according to medical report, it was actually impossible for her to conceive. Against all odds, she became pregnant! Secondly, another unusual thing took place in regards to his birth; Teniola was pregnant for 12 months! Unfortunately, things like this are common in Africa, as the African shamans and magicians

bring much grief to the lives of people with their voodoo curses. In some cases, a pregnancy can last up to three years. Such anomaly is caused by the influence of demonic powers that put the pregnancy process “on hold.” These stories may seem incredible to Europeans, but various forms of witchcraft are common in Africa. But as soon as believers pray for such women in the name of Jesus Christ, they give birth right away. The power of God is greater than the power of Satan.

Pastor Sunday once said, “As I contemplated the events that preceded my birth, I am sure that these were attacks from the devil. He really did not want me to be born. But Jesus defeated Satan, and therefore all the devil’s attempts to thwart and to twist God’s plans will always fail.”

When anointed men of God come into the world, more often than not, it is preceded and accompanied by all kinds of troubles. We can see this in the biblical stories of great men like Moses and John the Baptist. John the Baptist’s mother was barren for decades before she conceived. Moses was floated in a basket on a wild river filled with crocodiles in efforts to save him from King Pharaoh. And at Jesus’ birth, Herod decreed an entire massacre of all male children, forcing Mary and Joseph to flee for Jesus’ life. But there is comfort for us in all these stories — the One who watches over His children never slumbers!

Twenty years after Sunday was born God told him, *“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations.”* This verse from Jeremiah 1 gives a complete answer to the question why the devil was so worried and why he tried to thwart Sunday, even before he was born. Just like in the stories of the biblical heroes mentioned above, God fulfilled His plans for Sunday’s life.

“MYMOM”

When pastor Sunday was asked about his childhood, he thought for a moment and said, “I’m not sure I am ready to talk about that now,” but after some consideration he added, “Okay, I will tell you what I have never told anyone before.”

He was raised by his grandmother Rachel who literally took the place of his mother. His mother married again, about three years after he was born, and left to live with her new husband.

When Sunday was a little boy he thought that his grandma was his mother and thus called her “my mom” in their local. Because of this, many people made fun of him, calling him “my Mom.” Sunday first saw his biological mother when he was 12 years, and he would never have known it, if he was not told that this was the woman who gave birth to him. He felt no affection towards her. His grandmother was and is still ‘the only mother’ to him.

Here’s what Sunday’s mother Teniola said about that time in her family life:

Q: Why did you give Sunday to Mama?
T: In the olden days, grand parents take over the care of their grand children, especially that of the first child. In those days, grand parents didn’t leave the care of their grand children to chance, so they take personal responsibility for the upbringing of their grand children.

Q: When you were pregnant, what was your family’s response to it?
T: My family took care of me. If I had not had a good

family I would have died then.

Q: When you were pregnant, did you ever think of aborting the baby?
T: No. I never thought of that. If I had done that I

would have sinned against God. Pregnancy is the work of God, aborting is destroying the work of God. If I had done that, it would have been my greatest undoing, especially as I look up to him today.

Q: How old were you when you gave birth to Sunday?
T: I was about 26 years.

Q: And how old was the father of the child? T: He was much older. He was over forty.

Q: How did you feel when you left Sunday with your mother?
T: I didn’t really think about it, because it is generally

accepted among our people for the mother’s parents to care for their first grandson in order to secure his future. Q: Did you ever think about taking Sunday back? T: No. He was with my mother so I didn’t think of taking the child from her.

Q: Do you have any regrets in your life?
T: Yes, some. There is no one in the world that has no regrets.

Q: Did you ever imagine that Sunday would become a great man?
T: I never thought or even hoped that he would become great, but my approach to life is that I don't give up on anybody.

Q: Do you feel you broke Sunday's heart after you left him?
T: The last time Sunday visited us, I asked him, "Is

there any way I have wronged you?", and he said, "No."

While Rachel's grandson was running around the village with other boys, her sons were studying hard. Her oldest son studied in France. After graduating and receiving his doctorate degree in International Relations, he moved to England. There, he married a British woman and, thereafter, returned to Africa with his family, where he became a lecturer in University of Ife, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. Shortly after that, he became an assistant to Nigeria's Minister of Internal Affairs. By this time, Rachel's second son, Demorin, also graduated from the University of Ibadan and got a job as a secretary in the Ministry of Economics in Nigeria.

Both sons cared for their mother, and their support helped her greatly. Sunday still remembers how they came to the village and gave him special treats. They taught him to drive a car and asked him, "What kind of car would you like? What university are you planning to go to after school? Do you want to study abroad?" Of course, back then the little boy did not understand the words like "university" or "abroad", but he had a feeling that they had to mean something good.

Besides supporting their family, the brothers used their positions in government to help other villagers. As their children graduated from high school, they would send them to study abroad.

This period in the life of Rachel and her little grandson was filled with peace and happiness; but this was soon to change…

A CURSE?

One night, Sunday was rudely awakened by a stranger. When he opened his sleepy eyes, it seemed that all the villagers had crowded around their home.

They tried to comfort his grandmother. It was hard to believe, but that was the third time in the last six months that death had visited the Adelajas…

The royal kin of the Adelaja was respected and prosperous. Rachel's sons and daughter were well educated with successful careers. They were the pillars of the family. But that time, the family lost three of its finest in six months. Rachel's youngest son and her step daughter, the only female child to receive a university education and important businesswoman, died first. Shortly afterward, Rachel's eldest son passed away, also. The medical team convened by the Nigerian government was unable to determine the cause of death of this promising man. The loss of another child was devastating and the entire community shared in Rachel's grief.

Soon, leading newspapers were filled with all kinds of information on these tragic events. Journalists tried to shed light on it, attempting to figure out whether this was a tragedy or a curse. People in Africa believe strongly in the power of witchcraft and these mysterious deaths looked as if they were not coincidental.

Here's what the most prominent Nigerian newspaper at the time, the *Sunday Times*, wrote about those events:
THE SUNDAY TIMES
THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
*Sunday June 3, 1973* "TRAGEDY! FAMILY LOSES THREE CHILDREN IN

SIX MONTHS
Are these incidents merely coincidental or has the
family been cursed?
*Twenty-one days after the death of Dr. Kola Adelaja,*
*the 34-year-old former lecturer at the University of Ife and*
*ex-editor of the Nigeria Society for International Affairs,*
*mystery still surrounds the death of the young lecturer. Dr. Adelaja, who hailed from Idomila, a small village,*
*one mile from Ijebu-Ode; is the third of the three*
*prominent children of his family to die within the last six*
*months.*
*An atmosphere of extreme gloom and deep sorrow*
*hung over the little village when I called there during the*
*week in search of possible clues to the strange deaths of*

*the children of the Adelaja family.*
*Of all the people I approached, nobody wanted to*
*discuss the matter. It was as if the mere discussion of the Adelaja family tragedy would bring bad luck to them — old men and aged women-the main inhabitants of the small village simply threw their loin cloths on their*
*shoulders and disappeared into their huts.*
*The Adelaja family tragedy was the first of its type to*
*hit this small farming community of some three hundred*
*people.*
*The late Dr. Adelaja died on Monday, May 21 this year*
*after a brief illness at the University College Hospital,*
*Ibadan. According to informed sources, the team of doctors*
*who worked on the late lecturer was unable to diagnose*
*anything more than a "simple attack of malaria." The*
*malaria attack was regarded as such a minor case, that*
*the late lecturer was billed for a discharge a few hours*
*after he was pronounced dead.*
*A prolific commentator on foreign affairs and a wellknown television personality, Dr. Adelaja was popular in*
*social circles at Ibadan during his lifetime.*
*He had a degree in history from the University of*
*Nigeria, Nsuka before going to the University of Paris*
*where he bagged a doctorate degree in International*
*Relations.*
*He returned home two years later with his British wife*
*and two children and subsequently took a job as a*
*lecturer with the University of Ife.*
*The death of Dr. Kola Adelaja brought the count of*
*deaths in the Adelaja residence to 3, all within the last 6*
*months. Two of them, Dr. Kola Adelaja and his younger*
*brother, Mr. Demorin Adelaja, were of the same mother. According to reports, Mr. Demorin Adelaja aged 29,*
*died on December 25, (Christmas day) last year. He was alleged to have been taking a ride in his car on the Ibadan-Shagamu road with his fiancee and was following a trailer when on ascending a steep hill, the driver of the trailer lost control of the vehicle which then rolled back unto Mr. Demorin Adelaja's car and crushed him. His*
*fiancee who saw him die lost an eye.*
*Up until this moment she is still bedridden at the*

*UCH, Ibadan. Mr. Demorin Adelaja, an economics graduate of the University of Ibadan, like his brother (Dr. Adelaja) also died on a Monday.*
*Four Mondays before then — on Monday November 27, 1972 — the eldest of the Adelaja children, herself a graduate of the University of Ibadan also died in a road accident.*
*As throngs of distinguished personalities from all walks of life descended on the little village of ldomila again to commit to the ground the third Adelaja child to die in six months, the grief on everybody's face was beyond description.*
*For the first five minutes after he mounted the pulpit to pray for the departed soul of Dr. Adelaja, the officiating clergy, Canon A. Adelaja, simply could not say a word.*
*When he finally was able to say something he began: QUUEESSTTIION*
*"What shall we say? How shall we begin? How can we console the poor woman who has, within six terrible months, witnessed the death of her two children? Or how do we console a family that has lost its three stars in six months?*
*Five months ago, we were here to bury Mr. Demorin Adelaja and to pray to God to spare the life of Dr. Kola Adelaja, and the other remaining family. Today, again, we are here to bury the last of the three key players of the Adelaja children."*
*As pall bearers bore Dr. Adelaja to the same burial ground which kept the remains of his sister and brother — the unspoken question on every body's lips was: are these incidents merely co-incidents or has the family been cursed."*

Back in 1973, when this tragedy struck the Adelaja family, young Sunday was six years old. That was when his happy childhood ended. When his grandmother heard about the death of her third child, she fainted and fell to the ground. For a long time, she could not come back to her senses. After this shock she spent a whole year in intensive care. All the while Sunday was left in the care of his relatives, but really, he was all by himself.

## UNEXPLAINABLE EMPTINESS

Sunday had to start going to school, and learning became a burden beyond his strength for him. Until he was ten, he could not even master the Yoruba alphabet. Nowadays, he believes that his mind was most likely blocked at the time. He is still amazed at how he was able to pass to the next grade every year. For several years, Sunday attended school only because that was what children were supposed to do. He sincerely considered himself a dumb child and never dreamt he could even finish high school.

His grandmother pitied him because he had to go with her to the forest to find wood. She allowed him to rest at home and did not make him do his homework. She was illiterate and did not realize the importance of doing homework. On the other hand, Sunday was not eager to do it either. He would not even open his schoolbag at home, let alone his textbooks and notebooks. That's why he could never answer any questions at school. As he grew older, he tried to listen in class and to memorize some things. Perhaps this strategy eventually helped him to graduate from high school.

So, why depict Sunday's childhood in such a way? Do the stories of his childhood bring the man of God down? "No, they don't," Sunday says confidently. "On the contrary, these things must be said. Now, people around the world are receiving the words of wisdom that I share, and they cannot imagine that when I was a boy, I could not grasp even the most elementary things, and that I was the worse student in my class. This testimony from my life is a proof that we must never think that anybody is hopeless, even the most backward and disobedient child! That's why I wanted to write a book about my life, so that each person who reads it can confidently say, "If God could turn a backward village boy with a terrible character into a man who the entire world listens to, then He can do the same for me!""

Furthermore, Sunday grew up in primitive conditions and did not have any dreams as a boy. He did not know more than simple village-life. "My mind was totally empty. It was really as though my mind was blocked," the pastor recalls. "Maybe this was because my illiterate grandma wasn't able to instill a desire in me to learn or to plant a seed of great dreams in my soul. Or maybe it was the devil working? I don't have an answer to this question. I created my own world and played my own games. I would sometimes do some crafting or build sand towns. Only when I was eleven or twelve and saw other children playing with

the latest toys from major cities, that I became curious and started dreaming."

THESCHOOLOFSURVIVAL

It was almost certain for the people of Idomila that the tragedy was a curse after all. People stopped fellowshipping with the Adelaja family and among them were those who could have supported Rachel financially. The wealthier people who had a lot to lose avoided Sunday's relatives, hoping that having broken contact with the family, the curse could not affect them. They were sure it was a curse and, now, the oldie Rachel and her little grandson needed to find means on their own.

Have you ever seen advertisements or documentaries showing poor Africans carrying between five and ten kilogram load on their heads? Rachel and Sunday also had to do that. After the death of her children, she had no other choice but to take up an axe and go into the tropical forest to cut wood and sell it in order to earn a living.

Of course, Sunday was always with her. She was the most important person in his life. He would always go along with her to get wood, no matter the dry heat of summer, or heavy rain; she was the only close family he knew. He walked barefoot, until he was twelve, because right after the third prominent Adelaja passed away, he forgot his only pair of sandals at a field after playing soccer with some kids. He went back to look for his sandals but never found them. Sunday was only able to afford another pair of footwear six years later. So, for these six years he walked two kilometers to school and back every day through the forest barefoot. He still has scars on his feet from those long walks in the woods.

Pastor Sunday's cousin, Bode Awolana, recollects, *"Grandma traded in corn porridge (pap) then. To sustain the family, little Sunday had to hawk pap or firewood early in the morning before going to school in order to make ends meet. That earned him an appellate, "Sunday Ologi" (meaning Sunday the Pap seller). After the morning sales, he had to trek two and a half kilometers to and from the neighboring village where the nearest school was. Sunday attended St. Paul's Primary School, Ijebu Ilese, between 1974 and 1980. From there, he proceeded to Idomila Comprehensive High School, Idomila, Ijebu-Ode between 1980 and 1985."*

Pastor Sunday admits that during childhood, one is more able to cope with difficulties because you just think that this is life. But by the time he was eleven, he began to notice social differences between children. Many of his peers from wealthy families, who were his friends since they were little boys, went to school abroad and now only came to their home village for summer vacations. For almost a year, Sunday could not afford to spend time to play with them because he had to gather woods and dry them in order to earn some money to buy food for his grandma and himself.

## COMPLETELY HOPELESS

The newly discovered social difference caused him hurt. He started to think that life was not fair. To him, it seemed he had the most troubles, especially living with aged mother (he didn't know yet that she was his grandmother) and gathering woods for sale. He still remembered that, just a short time in the past, everything was different, his family had everything they needed and he befriended other children who were later sent to school abroad.

"There is no God! Life isn't fair!" One day, the struggling boy concluded after deep thought about his destiny. This 'discovery' hardened his heart and he became quite angry. In those years, Sunday became very stubborn and aggressive. There was practically no fight in the village he was not involved in. He became the village troublemaker. "What a riff-raff!" the villagers' regular comment about him.

Here is what Sunday's peers have to say about him. His cousin Bode remembers, "His youthful days were filled with competitive sports, extra curricular activities, socials and games. Before Sunday left Nigeria, he had always defeated all of us, his peers, in every contest. In fact, it was better for everyone to support him and not to engage him in any competition because he would always excel. He had so much strength and he would never give up on anything. Sunday grew up with an exceptional character. He was brilliant, strong, dutiful, studious, purpose driven, determined, rugged, troublesome and stubborn. Within the area in which he grew up, he was known for these qualities. At a young age, the stubborn and troublesome Sunday did not appear to many people as a promising child; but in the midst of these, grandma believed differently."

During that period of Sunday's life, he displayed a radical character in both a good and a bad sense. He was the best in good works as well as in fights. You

could hardly find a more agreeable and peaceful teenager as long as everything went his way, but as soon as he was upset with anything, it triggered his inner pain from all the loss and disillusions he experienced. Also, all the suppressed anger from having to work so hard every day manifested itself as aggression and he would lose control.

Having once been considered “a problem child,” Pastor Sunday is convinced today that all problem children are not the scum of society. He says there are no bad children, in the same way that there are no bad adults. The reasons someone starts to behave bad are rather the errors and ignorance in upbringing or an intense inner pain that tortures each problem child. Therefore, they do irrational and shocking things, trying to, somehow, ease that pain. “You can find a precious pearl even in the most awful filth,” the pastor says.

Here is what Bunmi Banjo has to say about his schoolmate, Sunday:

*“I first met Sunday in September of October of 1980 in Idomila Comprehensive High School. We were both in our first year. I could remember that he had a small stature, at that time, while some of our mates were quite older and bigger than we were back then. From the onset, I would say he was out-going, although, I had always been shy. Sunday was amiable, quite friendly and loved to play. I wouldn’t say he was studious in the first few years, but that changed in the last two years of our secondary education. I remember clearly that in the last year and before our final examination, we studied together. I also remember very well that he was a sprinter when we were in school. He loved to play football, too.*

*Sunday was friendly and loved to play, or should I say: he was quite playful. No doubt, he had a good sense of humor. He laughed at his own jokes, too! Sunday could laugh and his laughter was contagious. He was always agile and strong as well as honest in his dealings with friends. This was no exaggeration — Sunday would never be bullied or intimidated by peers. You know, bullying was common among students in the teenage years. He had a character of holding and touching his friends when with them. He would not succumb to intimidation or bullying, but he would fight if he had to.*

*I would say he had many friends, a variety of them with various characters, Although, I wouldn’t say these were his bosom friends.*

*When I was alone with him we used to talk about studying and life overseas. I*

*think that was the subject that drew us close. He thought of becoming anything — a political scientist, mass communication expert, journalist, but certainly not a pastor."*

*I had always had the feeling that he would be successful, probably because we both had desired overseas study — which was regarded as the key to success in our days, or perhaps due to his amiability, but I'd never thought he would become the Senior Pastor of the largest church in Europe."*

While Sunday's peers didn't notice any particular bitterness in him, his grandmother underwent the full force of it.

"When my grandma disciplined me, I could retaliate by burning her clothes," Pastor Sunday recalls. "One day, I took all Grandma's gold and jewelry and buried it somewhere and up to this day, nobody has been able to find it. Another time, after I was punished for something I had done, I took some kerosene, went to grandma's bedroom, doused the walls in kerosene and was ready to burn the whole house…"

"He was very stubborn. In fact, what Sunday did to Mama, his children must not do to him," Sunday's mother, Teniola, says in her interview. "At the age of 8, Mama scolded him because he offended her; Sunday took offence and dumped Mama's best dresses into a heap of refuse because he could not beat her. Anytime he was angry and had no one to vent his anger on, he would start banging his head against the wall. On one occasion, when he visited us on holidays, I scolded him for offending my husband and he cut my dress with a blade. It was after he left that I found out what he had done. Out of anger, he would throw away Mama's pot of soup."

The future did not seem bright for Sunday. Time after time, his behavior became uglier, and his anger became too much to handle. Whenever grandma lamented as she witnessed her grandson's mischief, Sunday would throw another temper tantrum. Then, she would shout loudly "Olorunwa!" (There is God), loud enough for the whole village to hear because she hoped that something good will eventually come out of him.

DEAREST ONE

When Sunday was 16, his grandmother died. When he found out about it he was so shocked that he wanted to take his own life. This loss was immeasurable and

infinitely painful. “My grandma was the only person in my life who really cared for me. She will always remain my greatest love,” Pastor Sunday says, continuing the story of his childhood and youth. “However, I didn’t realize this fact then. Just like many other people, I fully realized what she meant to me only after she had gone. Now, I know that, without her, I simply wouldn’t have survived. When my grandma was alive, she disciplined me and reprimanded me often. As a result, I perceived she was cruel, although, she never punished me physically. Now, I realize that she simply wanted me to be the best and she tried to raise me the best way she could. There were some things I did that were so bad that only God knows why she didn’t write me off.”

After grandma’s funeral, his mother asked him to live with them but he refused. Rather, Sunday decided to stay back in his home village and continue his grandmother’s trade. He continued to gather firewood and, also, learnt to prepare pap according to grandma’s recipe. Then, he would put it in small packages, fill the basket that he carried on his head, and would go to sell it to the wealthier villagers.

“During this period, some strange things began to happen to me,” Pastor Sunday explained. “I didn’t know why but I suddenly began to feel ashamed when girls would see me. I was already a big guy, going around with a basket on my head and offering people to buy some pap for breakfast. But, in spite of these feelings of discomfort, I couldn’t stop. The pap I sold provided for my sustenance, although, the money I made from sales was never enough anyway.”

As he went from door-to-door around his home village and the neighboring villages, he once noticed that some of the villagers had farms. They would take several acres of land and plant cassava. “This is what I need! I am 16 already!” thought the young man. So, he went to the king to ask him for a plot of land. But he received treasured seven acres; he cleared the bush and planted cassava. But this was unheard of! Even the twenty-year-olds in his this was unheard of! Even the twenty-year-olds in his year-old who undertook this serious business all by himself. “Look at Olorunwa! Maybe he is not a hopeless case after all?” the villagers began to say.

This is how the boy turned into a man in one year after. “Sometimes, God allows our tragedies to make us mature,” Pastor Sunday explains. Now, he understands that — all his bare-footed treks to school, two-kilometer walks to and from school, basket on his head, firewood gathering and pap selling — all these

helped him to develop a capacity to work and an ability to survive under any conditions.

## THE FIRST REVELATION

While Sunday cultivate cassava, gathered firewood and cooked pap, his older sister was studying in a college. She had to date privilege men in order to pay her own tuition. Though, she did not have much, she always came back to help Sunday. Even if it was just to give him some food. When the time came for his secondary school final exams, he needed to pay the examination fee which was more than the tuition fees for a whole year. All the money Sunday could save was not enough to cover this expense. He depended on help from his sister to finish school.

But, to raise the odds against him, his sister said that she did not date men anymore. She had repented and received Jesus as her Lord and Savior. Sunday, having realized that she was no longer able to support him, grew desperate. But his sister comforted him, saying, “Don’t worry, God is going to do a miracle!” And, she began to pray. And then, a miracle happened! One of the wealthy coeds who knew their family history suddenly decided to help. He was aware of the fact that, for the last ten years, they were unable to overcome this tragedy and escape from the grip of poverty. He gave Sunday money which was enough to pay for the state exams.

“Then I truly witnessed a miracle,” Pastor Sunday says. “Therefore when my sister told me that there is a God and that we must live a holy life, I decided not to argue with her. At her request, I stopped spending time with girls or going to discos parties, which at this time was already my lifestyle.

After my grandma’s death I stopped fighting and cursing. I found fulfillment in work and began to make money. Such changes in my lifestyle were caused, first of all, by the fact that with the death of my grandma, it seemed to me that my life was finished, too. Secondly, I felt such a gratitude to her, for who she was, as though I was blind and, suddenly, received my sight. Thirdly, I realized that everything she did in her life was for me.

Before then, when grandma was still alive, I also had such moments of revelation and realized fully what she meant to me. But, it seemed to me that my grandma would live many years and I would still have time to express my thanks

to her. Well, I was late. This pain was so intense that I have made a decision: Even if I was late to express my gratitude to her while she was alive, I will now do everything I can, to prove her hopes right. Having once learned this lesson in life, knowing that there might be no second chance, I now always help people and thank them right away, and not putting it off until tomorrow."

"I had begun to work diligently but I wanted something more. I wanted to join the company of the guys who were dating girls and not working as hard as I was. I began to set aside some time for dating and discos. I thought this was making me a modern person, a real man, and that this is what they called a 'civilized' lifestyle. At the same time, I never drank alcohol, never smoked and never used drugs…"

Before her sister told her about God, Sunday knew that there was a God. After all, He went to the traditional Anglican Church located at the center of his village and even sang in the choir. But this was all a mere tradition to him. He did not understand a thing about God. Just like all the other parishioners, he continued to live an unrighteous life and he never gave any thought to salvation. It was only after his sister begun to talk to him about Jesus did he, firstly, begin to reflect about it. He realized that she was telling him about something bigger than what he had heard in church. "Start praying to God, Sunday," his sister would say. "Quit going out with girls, because it is sin. If you want God to help you, you must finish school with good grades. Otherwise, you are going to spend the rest of your life in the village, selling pap and firewood."

"I suddenly realized that if there is really God, like my sister said, then I need to ask Him for help. And He will be able to help me when I do something and I should not just sit there dreaming. Before, I used to think that I would never mount up to anything, regardless of how hard I studied but, at that period, instead of going to discos I began to pray and prepared for my graduation exams.

That was the first revelation in my life, and it brought incredible results! Soon, I was among the top ten students in my class. Before this time, I believed that I was not meant to be the first. I thought God had created me dumb, and my teachers confirmed my opinion as they kept saying, "Sunday, you are the only Adelaja who has no capacity for learning." But suddenly it turned around."

For the first time in his life, he excelled over all those who he earlier envied. And at the end, he finished his secondary education in flying colors. This

presented him with several opportunities. One of them was to enroll in one of the universities in Nigeria. Another was to hope for one more miracle from God to win the state scholarship for free study abroad. Every year the state offered 300 scholarships, and about 200,000 students competed to receive them. God preformed yet another miracle and Sunday won one of the state scholarships.

GOOD NEWS

“Now, I realized I was not really born dumb and I can use my head! Geniuses aren’t born after all!” These discoveries encouraged Sunday to desire more knowledge. He began to study with interest and wanted to fulfill the potential he never thought was in him. He began to build his future. He used to enjoy fiction movies, but now he began to watch educational programs and the news in order to know what was happening in the world.

One day, after watching the news, Sunday decided to watch a religious program that followed. Although, he already prayed and refused to live a sinful life, he had not repented yet, and showed no interest in religious programs. But this time, he watched the television outreach programme of Pastor W.F. Kumuyi, the founding pastor of the Deeper Life Bible Church. As a result, an eventful experience happened. “In that program, for the first time in my life, Pastor Kumuyi said that Jesus loves me, that He died for me and has forgiven all my sins and my unrighteous living. He said I should repent of my sins. This impressed me greatly and I decided to do what the preacher asked me to do: to repent of my sins. After the program, Sunday went to a room, kneeled down and, sincerely, started to pray.”

Pastor Sunday continued, “I began to recall all the bad things I did, especially, how I hurt my grandma. It hurt me most that I cannot express my gratitude to her that she never saw a good person I have become and she never heard other villagers praising me. When I made my first 100 dollars working at a plant, I only wanted to run to my grandma, to give the money to her. But the thought that I can no longer do this was unbearable… This pain still lingers.”

*This is the letter of gratitude Pastor Sunday wrote to his grandmother on his 40th birthday. To him, Rachel was, really, his ‘mother’, more than his biological mother.*

*“My dearest Grandma,*

*I actually never called you grandma, only mama. Therefore, my dear, beloved, one and only mama. I want to tell you that you are everything to me.*

*I'm so sorry you are no longer alive. And I am very sorry I cannot express my appreciation to you in person. I strongly desire to show you my gratitude in word and deed, but this will never be fulfilled on earth. However, if the dead can hear and see what the livings are doing, I hope you are proud of your son, Olorunwa. You have given me this name hoping that something good will come out of me. It means, "There is God." You had the foresight, because as I knew you, you believed that God will always defend the righteous and He will prove with this child that He is the God indeed. I want to say God has really vindicated you and your faith. He has defended the righteous, even in that little child — Olorunwa. There is indeed a God in heaven.*

*You are my hero. You believed in me when there was no reason for anybody to believe in me. Even your own daughter, my biological mother, I do not think she believed in me as much as you did.*

*When she left for her second marriage, I was left with you. You took care of me, nurturing in me the values of life. And from 3 years old, I have remained with you till the day of your death and you were the only person I knew. You believed in me, you took care of me. You fed me with your last food. You took me with you everywhere. At the very fragile age of 57, while all your children were grown up, you became a mother again to your grandson. You dedicated your life to raise me up. And in those days, when I was proving stubborn and did not understand life, when I was very troublesome and disobedient, you were always telling me, "I am doing all these things for your sake and everything that I do is for you." I did not understand this then; I was foolish, I was ignorant. I was angry at my condition of living and of all the tragedy that occurred in our family at that point. So I want to say, Sorry Mama, now that I have grown up.*

*I am apologizing and asking for your forgiveness and, especially, regretting the fact that I could not pay you this gratitude in action and in deed. But the whole world would come to know who you are because of your faithfulness. I had dreamt of the day I will grow up to take care of you, but that was never to be…*

*And now, grandma, your little son is turning 40. Nobody, including my humble self, ever believed that anything good could come out of this boy. Probably, only you believed otherwise — thank you for believing in me.*

*Your prophecy for my life has come to pass and I have become a testimony of the faithfulness of God.*

*Your Olorunwa is turning 40, but on this special day I want, first of all, to write you this letter of thanks to say THANK YOU for everything you've done for me!!! If it were not for you, I wouldn't be here. I owe all I have to you.*

*I can't hold back the tears as I write this letter because my biggest dream in life was to grow up and to prove to you that all your efforts were not in vain and all your sacrifices for me were not in vain. But, it so happened that you did not get a chance to see how I stopped misbehaving, how I began to study well and how I was called by God to serve Him. You did not get a chance to receive even a penny from my hands or to hear me say words of gratitude, but I will always be a living testimony to your memory. And, I will do everything to let the whole world know about you, that I had a mom. You are my heroine!!! You are my love!!! Besides the Lord, you are the one who is worthy to receive great glory for everything I have become. You have taught me to work, to love people, to be impartial and enterprising. You have taught me to be the best.*

*All changes in my life began when you died. When I found out that I was left alone, my eyes opened. I realized that I was alive, only because of you, and that unless I would begin to take care of myself I won't have anybody else to take care of me anymore.*

*Thank you, my dear mom, for giving me every last penny and every last piece of bread. Thank you for giving me your life. Even, when you were sick, you would still get up early to go with me to the forest to gather wood. I cannot help but say this with weeping and crying, because the only Sunday Olorunwa you knew was a troublesome lad, very hopeless and reckless.*

*The last time I saw you, you were diagnosed with cancer and taken away from the village to the hospital. You told me to take care of my self and to remember whose child I am and where I come from. From that time on, the only last time I saw you was at the hospital when I came to see you. I remember that when I was told of your death, I was ready to die as well. I could not or did not see any reason for living, because you were the only person I knew and the only life that I had. But, thank God and thank you for the values and the virtues that you had deposited in me, and the foundation that you had laid in my life. That foundation has gone a long way and it's bringing forth fruits. Thank you for laying a dint of hard work, diligence, endurance and suffering; they have gone a long way to making the man that the world now calls Pastor Sunday.*

*I continued to live and decided to dedicate myself to finish all the works that we started together. I am so sorry that you weren't able to see that, mom! I have finished all those works! I didn't stop to fix pap and to sell it door-todoor in the*

*neighboring villages. I, even, went further and took two plots of land, tilled it and planted crops, doing what you always told me to do. I was able to survive and to finish school, thanks to the trade you taught me.*
*Thank you for teaching me to overcome difficulties, to work hard, to endure and have long suffering.*
*You are the only life that I knew. You were my mom, my friend, my dad and my grandma. I will never forget our room and the floor on which I slept until I was fifteen. I will never forget how we went to the forest to gather woods; how you raised me and took me along with you everywhere you went. I want to thank you once again. I appreciate everything you did for me!!!*
*I love you. God bless you mama and rest in peace.*
*My loving memory to you."*
*Pastor Sunday*
N.B.
*"And I hope that this letter and this memorial will go a long way, just to strengthen and to bring encouragement to all other people, especially all grandmothers and mothers in this world who have to deal with troublesome children. I remember that I was so angry at the way my grandmother was disciplining me, one time, I took away all her gold and her jewelry and I threw them away. Another time, I put petrol in her wardrobe where all her clothes were and I was ready to set the house on fire. I was saying all kinds of wild and ugly things to her whenever she disciplined or beat me. I did not understand. I did this in ignorance. I am sure that there are a lot of children now, who behave disrespectfully; maltreating their parents and their grandparents.*
*Maybe you feel like cursing or giving up on them, let my experience go a long way to encourage you not to give up on those children. Keep on having faith in them, keep on putting your best in them, when they grow up one day, God will meet with them and show them a miracle and transform their hearts. God appreciates everything you have been doing for them. So, may this word go a long way to save the lives of thousands of children and grandchildren and to raise a lot of would-be Pastor Sundays"*, says Pastor Sunday.

It is as a result of this pain of knowing that he will never be able to thank his grandmother again that Sunday began to do good to everybody who came his way. The things he ought to do for his grandma is what he is now doing to other people in the world. That is why he never passes anybody by without touching his or her life, putting all his strength into what he is doing and kills his flesh in order to help other people live. And this is not just exaggeration but has really become the essence of his life.

If we were to ask each person who has ever had a chance to come in contact with pastor Sunday, what he personally did for him or her, the volumes of thanks would fill many cabinets.

Some might say, “He supported, encouraged… big deal!” Yes, it could seem insignificant and trivial, but these little and ‘trivial’ things form the legendary person of Pastor Sunday Adelaja. It is because of these little things God has lifted him up to world-wide recognition and He is making room for him at the very top level of government. We will talk about this later. Remember this: Paying attention and caring for people as individuals, and not just as a crowd, is the key (the secret) to everything that happens today in the life of Sunday Adelaja.

SUNDAY, OH SUNDAY

This is the letter Pastor Sunday’s sister, Mrs. Olaide Alaba Akinrinlude (Nee Adelaja), wrote to him on his birthday.

*“Olorunwa, Sunkanmi, Adewale, Oluwatoyin, Oluwakemi, Temitope, Temitayo*
*These are your names which as they were pronounced, even at my own tender age I was able to put to memory, on the day you were named.*
*You are my pride and you mean much to me. What shall I say unto the Lord? All I have to say is to THANK GOD.*
*I am most grateful to God because we are not only related by human blood but now by the precious blood of Jesus!*
*You’ve always proved yourself as an outstanding rugged child because even as a child, you were stubbornly disobedient. And now as a man, you’ve been able to become an outstanding vessel even in the hands of the Almighty God. As usual, Sunday, I pray that you will not fall, and you will not fail, you will not falter and you will not fumble. Most importantly, you will not expire in Jesus name.*
*Your large heart which I believe is a gift from the almighty Father is a tool that the Lord is using to increase you in all ramifications. It will not cease in Jesus name.*
*I remember some of your touching letters most of which came when you had ‘challenges.’. Your life was threatened and your ministry was shaken to its foundations you will say, “Aunty mi, pray for me.” Now all these have become history. I feel like praising God.*
*Let’s Sing:*

*O ti mu mi gbagbe o*
*Ibanuje igbakan*
*O ti mu mi gbagbe o*
*Ibanuje igbakan*
*Ase were nise Oluwa*
*Oba ti mo pe to je*
*Ase were nise Oluwa*
*Oba ti mo pe to je.*

*It's amazing how time flies. To say you're 40 is awesome to me. Life, they say, begins at forty and as you grow in age, may you continue to grow in the wisdom and favor of God.*

*I give glory to the all knowing God, who has lifted you from miry clay (Zero level) and put your feet upon the Solid Rock (Hero level). May you never decrease in Jesus name (Amen).*

*I remember the date May 28, 1967, as I wrote that date with a chalk on the wall of Mama's room. It was truly an unforgettable day when that great boy Sunday Olorunwa was born. I am now happy to write your name in ink.*

*Your birth was great but you re-birth in 1985 was greater. I came back from school on this fateful day, witnessed and introduced the Lord Jesus to you not knowing that the seed sown that day just in front of our family house will become an oak. You accepted Christ as your Lord and Savior and I prayed with you. Heaven must have marked this as it turned out to be the beginning of months for you.*

*I am grateful to God that made it possible for me to catch a big fish like you in the river of life. It remains one of the best things that has ever happened to me.*

*As the whole world celebrates and rejoices with you Sunday, I feel elated. I cannot but join others to say: HAPPY BIRTHDAY! To a brother that is worth it."*

HEMADETHEDECISIONTOLIVEFOR GOD, FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

After Sunday's experience in that room where he repented and gave his life to God, he changed. He could recall that he felt renewed. He went outside and saw the trees and sky, he can remember that even the colors seemed deeper and more

intense. In his heart, he started to feel the desire to serve Him, and repay Him for the mercy of His forgiveness. He began to spend all his spare time at the church. His friends did not believe in the sincerity of his faith and thought that this was just a passing craze. But as he almost fanatically continued to attend services, their friendship faded.

*"He surprised us, especially his peers, when he gave his life to Christ through the television ministry of Pastor W.F Kumuyi of the Deeper Life Bible Church in 1986," says* Bode Awolana, Pastor Sunday's cousin.

*"That change was so sudden and radical. Almost instantly, he became a changed person and abandoned the usual peer pressure. He embraced the company of Christian believers. Some of our peers concluded that his newly found experience with the Lord would not last. Nevertheless, Sunday continued to study the Bible and Christian literature as if he was studying for serious exams. I followed Sunday to Christian fellowships once a while, but then, backed out along the way. But Sunday never went back."*

*A new beginning…*

Six month after repentance and giving his life to Christ, Sunday received a message that he was awarded the state scholarship and could now choose where to study — the USA or the USSR. Being that he had just repented, he consulted his pastor who told him to pray. After a time of consecration, they continued their conversation and the finger of God was pointing in one direction. "If you survive in the Soviet Union, you will survive everywhere," his pastor told him. These words settled his choice. He decided to go to the Soviet Union and to suffer for God there if he has to. He was told that in the Soviet Union people could be sentenced to jail for their faith in God.

MOSCOW, SHEREMETYEVO
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

On September 14th of 1986, the young Nigerian first set foot on Soviet soil. His first impressions were shocking. Besides being in a foreign country and culture, among foreign people, he saw that the surroundings did not fit the image of a world superpower. He imagined the Soviet Union to be well developed economically, just as Great Britain, Germany, America and other leading nations of the world. On the contrary, the things he saw shocked him. For example, the

cars in Moscow, the capital of this superpower were old and he recalls that even in Africa, some people drive better cars. But the bigger shock was that in this country the awareness of God or the Holy Spirit was virtually nonexistent. There was nothing to point to the existence of a living God. Even the Russian orthodox churches were more like museums than places of worship.

Sunday had only repented a couple of months earlier and felt like a fish out of water without a Christian fellowship to attend. He was all alone in a hard and desolate place. “How can people be so ungodly?” the young man wondered. He could not begin to imagine such complete and unanimous indifference to God and faith. He tried to gather some believing foreigners who joined him to pray and worship together but it never came close to a fellowship he briefly became acquainted with in Nigeria.

Of course, he wanted to leave this country as soon as possible. His scholarship to America was still open. There, he could really enjoy a life of freedom and opportunities. But one of his brothers, Tai Adelaja, who lived in Moscow, talked him into staying. Considering his advice, the young Sunday accepted an offer to study in Belarus.

## A STUDENT
## AT TH E BELARUSSIAN UNIVERSITY

While Sunday was deciding whether or not to stay in the Soviet Union, the school year had already started. When he came to Minsk, the capital of Belarus, the first semester had already commenced and the students were already studying; the foreign students had finished their first Russian courses. Sunday had to catch up.

“Learning Russian was a very difficult process for me,” the pastor admits. “It was very hard on me. Watching my useless efforts, my Russian language teacher told me after a couple of months, ‘I know that you are a believer, and I am an atheist. If you ever learn to speak Russian I am going to put a candle in a Russian orthodox church.’ Praise God, these words became a challenge for me. I immediately recalled my sister’s words that geniuses aren’t born. It all depends on the amount of work invested. She also said that whenever life seemed difficult I should remember Deuteronomy 28:13 and Psalm 119:99. “It is written that you can be first in your studies, first at your job, first in every other area of life, that you can be wiser than your teachers,” she would say. “If you only

believe the Word, it will be so. You can be the best with God!""

Before this, Sunday used to worry about being able to study in a foreign language, but now he suddenly believed that with God all things are possible indeed. So, he was determined not to allow God's name to be put to shame and began to study diligently. Sunday knew what was required of him. He dedicated himself and studied hard. After lectures, he had lunch and headed straight to the library where he studied till closing time.

Here's what his schoolmate, Catherine Sibanda, recalls:

*"I met Pastor Sunday in Minsk in 1986 at the Preparatory Faculty. We then became classmates, actually desk mates at the Faculty of Journalism. Sunday was my best friend, my brother; he was a father when the situation demanded so. He was a spiritual counselor, too. He made such an impact in my life with his dedication and honesty to all he does. He always had the anointing, even at college and, even, in class there was always something about him and now I know what that something was.*

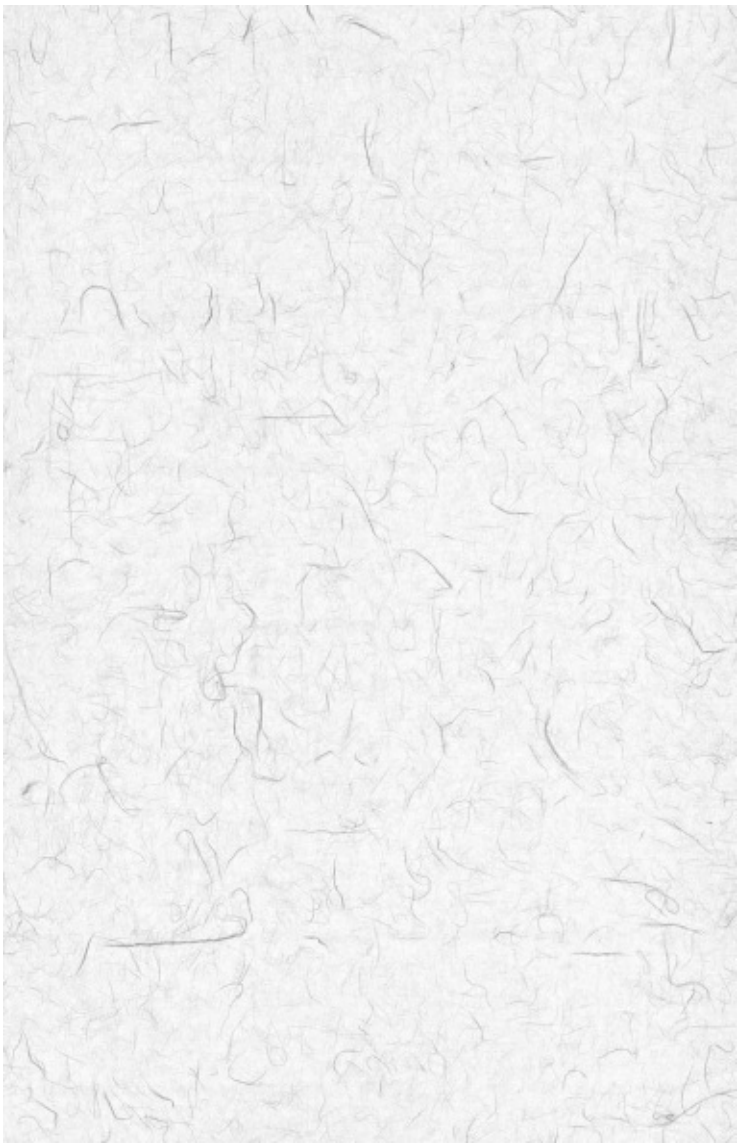
*I still treasure the African shirt he gave me at Moscow Airport as I, finally left for home."*

By the time he graduated from the Preparatory Faculty, Sunday was the first in his group and one of the best students of that faculty. The teacher who challenged him did not light a candle in the church, as he said but Sunday came out a winner.

LOOKING FOR LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE

Sunday gradually got used to his new surroundings but he still could not understand why he had to stay in this cold and grey country. "God, why did You send me here?" he would call out. At the time, Sunday was attending an underground church — a secret gathering of believers to pray and share word. He shared these concerns with his new believer friends. "Listen, why are you complaining and regretting that you came here?" One of them asked Sunday, "Don't you know that God has a plan for your life? If you ended up here, then it must be for a reason. Moreover, you could have gone to America but God sent you to this place, you have to find the reason from Him." They encouraged him to stop complaining and brought him to an understanding that God has a plan for his life.

**African village Region map. Nigeria. Ogun State. Ijebu Ode Town. Province Idomila**
**Nigerian market**



**Sunday’s grandmother — Rachel Adelaja**
**Sunday’s mother — Teniola**

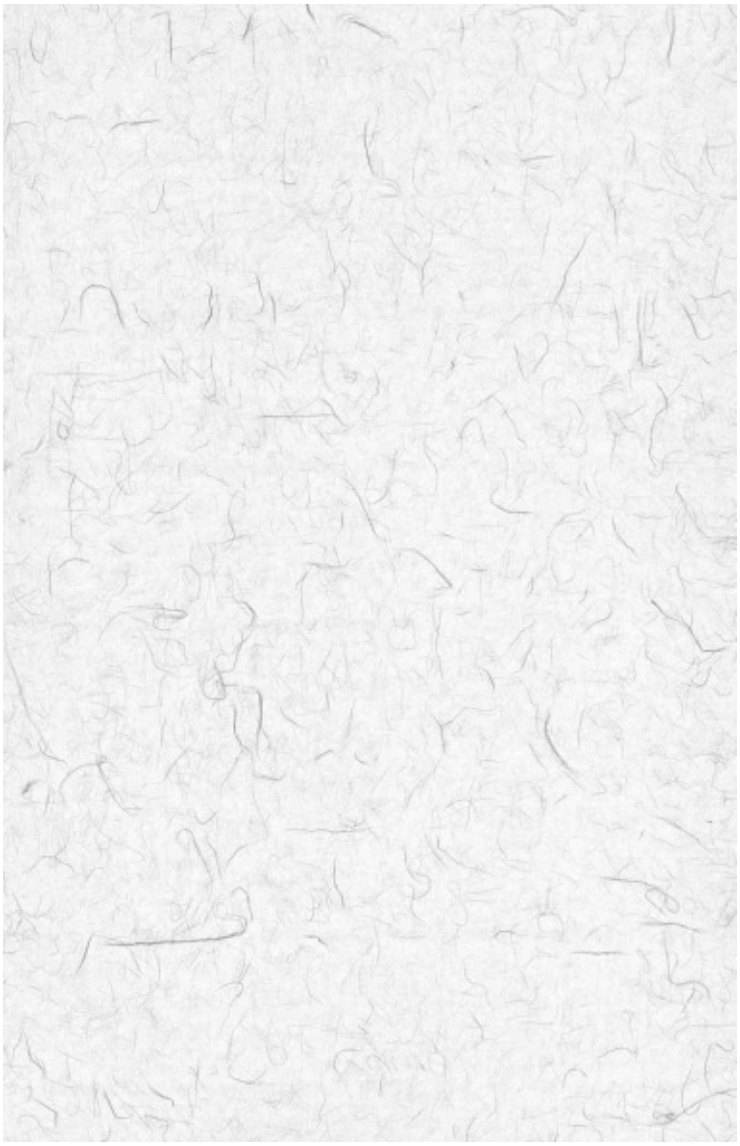


**Sunday’s grandmother — Rachel Adelaja**
**Adelaja royal family**

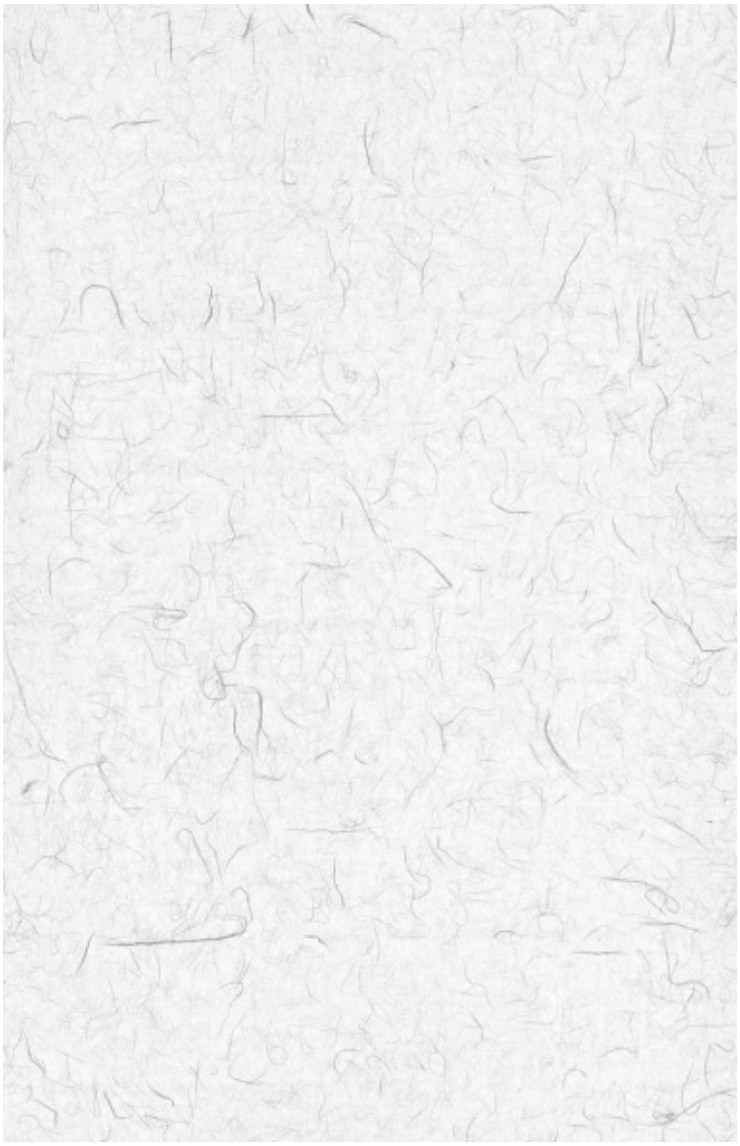
**Sunday's childhood**



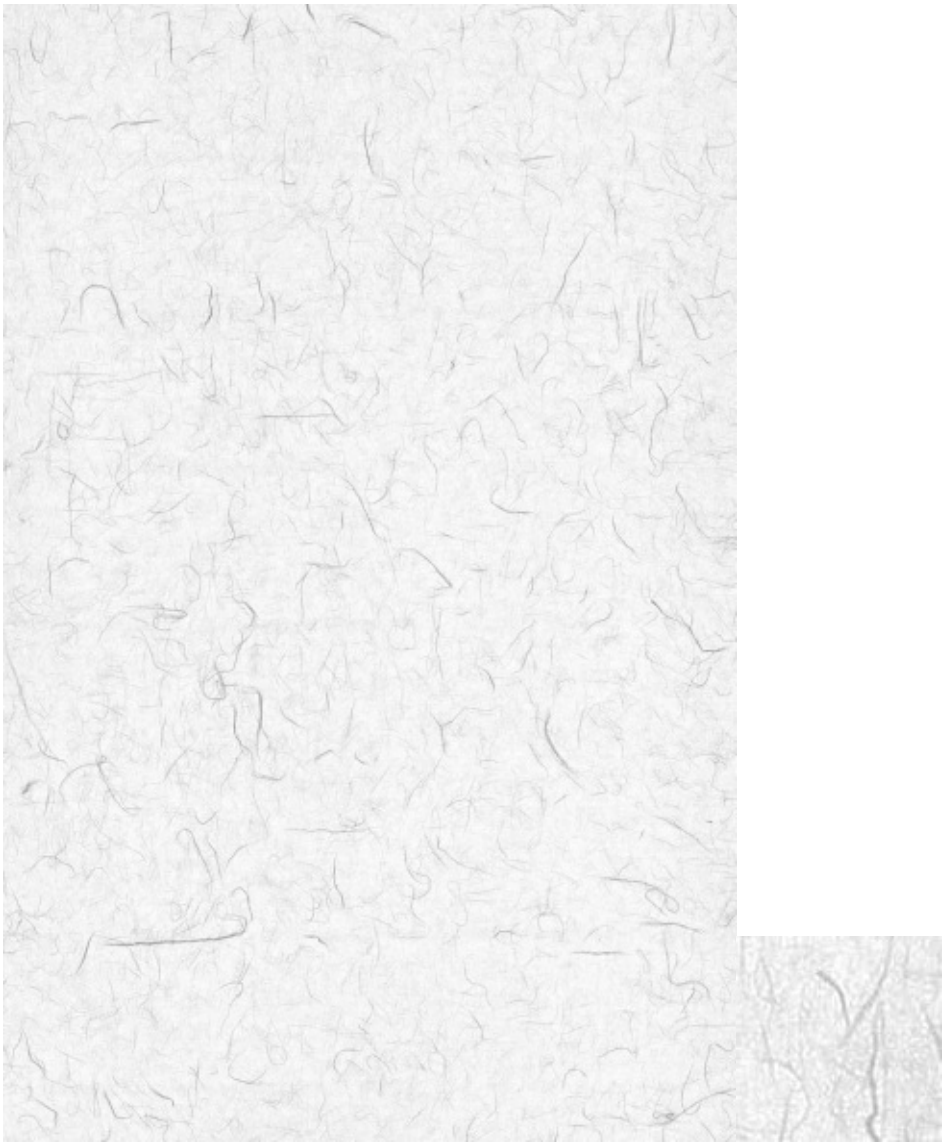
**Sunday is 16**



**Sister Laide Akinrinlude**



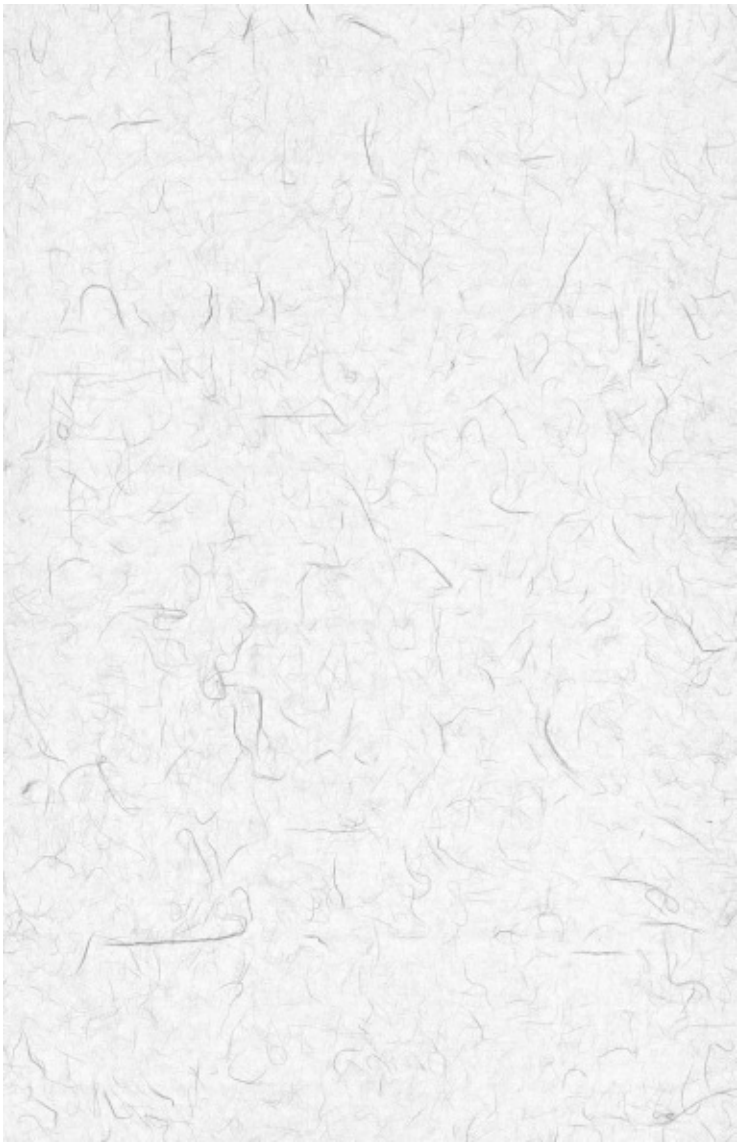
**Taiwo with Son and Wife In the tropic suburbs Idomila’s Primary**



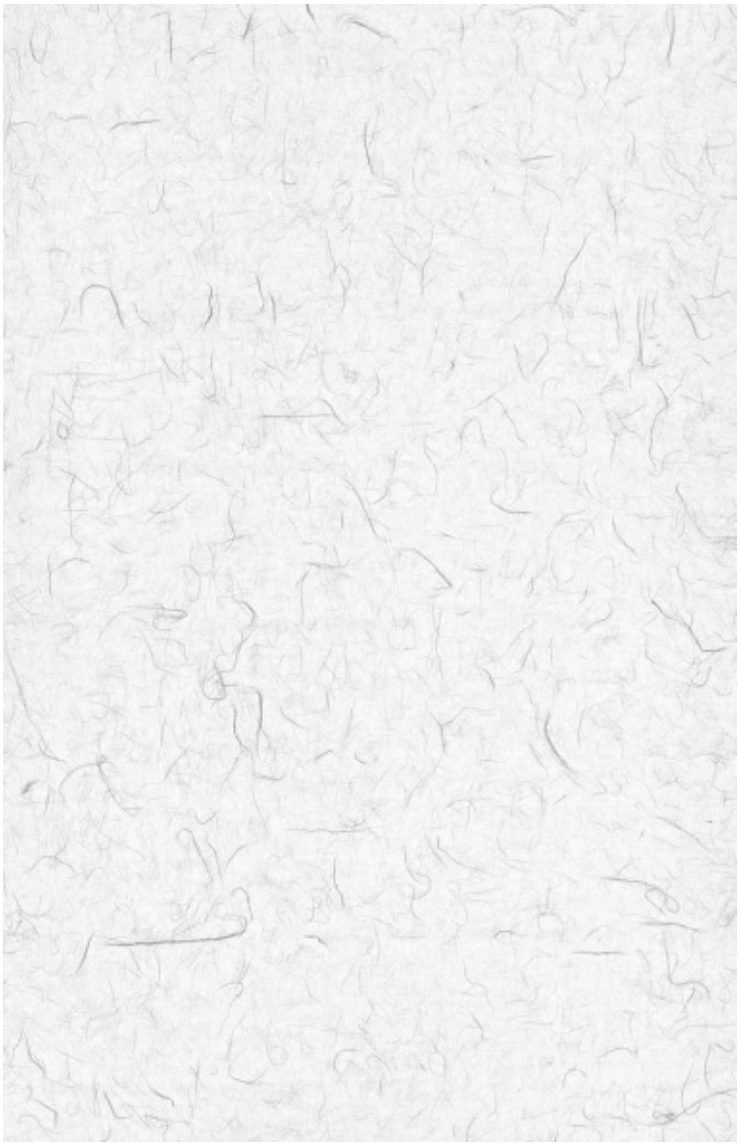
**School**




# Rachel Adelaja’s last way



**Bitterness of loss. Sunday is at the grandma’s Moscow. Minsk. Belarusian State University**



## CHAPTER 2

# “The smallest

## one will become a clan...”
## " The smallest one will become a clan, And the least one a mighty nation"” — Isaiah 60:22

THE LORD’S ANOINTING

# *“T*

*he smallest one will become a clan, and the least one a mighty nation”* (Isaiah 60:22). This was the statement made by Albert Kitcher,

one of Pastor Sunday’s close friends; when the idea of becoming a pastor had not yet crossed his mind.

“Why did You send me to this country, Lord? Answer me please!” For many days these words were Sunday’s only prayer. He prayed like this from dusk till dawn. Two weeks later, something incredible happened. He had an amazing dream which he dreamt three nights consecutively. He saw Jesus coming to him personally, taking him by the hand and leading him into his future.

Pastor Sunday recalls the vision that shaped his destiny: “I saw myself standing on a stage beside a preacher who was very well-known at the time, and behind us were a group of key Christian leaders of those days. Jesus came to me, collected the microphone from the preacher’s hands, gave it to me and I began to preach before a great multitude of people — perhaps, as much as 200,000, mostly Europeans. Jesus stood right by my side and, suddenly, He began to tell me what problems and sicknesses the people had. What happened next simply blew my mind. As I addressed each person Jesus pointed out to me, the person immediately received an answer to his or her problem. I saw a woman who had been paralyzed for many years standing up from her wheelchair. I saw a blind man receiving his sight. There was no end to these miracles and healings…

On the third night, the dream was so vivid that it seemed to me that it was all really happening. I woke up, amazed by what I saw. ‘Open your Bible’, a soft voice suddenly told me. All confused and not knowing what was happening, I randomly opened the Holy Scriptures and read,

The SPIRIT of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed and qualified me to preach the Gospel of good tidings to the meek, the poor, and afflicted; He has sent me to bind up and heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the [physical and spiritual] captives and the opening of the prison and of the eyes to those who are…

Isaiah 61:1, Amplified Bible

Sunday knew these words. Jesus read the same words in the temple in his hometown, Nazareth, as well as in the book of Luke 4:18. But, back then, Sunday had no idea that Jesus was quoting from Isaiah, a book in the Old Testament. Sunday had never spotted these words in the Old Testament before. That is why he was so sure he could never have opened the bible, at this page, on purpose.

“As I read those lines, I felt as though the words were coming out towards me and engulfing me like a mighty wave.” Pastor Sunday explains. “Each cell of my body was singing in a thousand voices that was filling the room. Could this really be God speaking? Is it possible that my roommates heard anything? If yes, why did they continue to sleep?” I had question after question agitating my mind. “What is next Lord?” I panicked. “I am only 19, and it’s only been six months since I became a believer. How am I supposed to understand all that I see and hear?”

While I was saying all that, I felt an urge to open the Bible again. This time it was Jeremiah 1:8,9, and the Lord gave me an answer to all my questions, He said:

Don’t say that you are young for I have put my word like a coal into your mouth, and this word that you will speak to people will uproot sin, change nations and plant My kingdom.

This encounter was not over yet. As he thanked God in prayer for His answers, he was led to the scriptures again…

Record the vision and inscribe it on tablets, that the one who reads it may run. For the vision is yet for the appointed time; it hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, wait for it; for it will certainly come, it will not delay...

Habakkuk 2:2,3 Sunday understood that God wanted him to record everything he saw and heard, so he took a pen and a notebook and did everything just like the Lord commanded him.

Of course, early in the following morning, Sunday could hardly wait for classes to be over! He had to share this revelation with his Christian friend who listened to him and said, “Last night, God woke me up and urged me to write this down for somebody in our prayer group.” He handed over to Sunday a notebook full of writing and said, “I suppose, it’s for you!” That notebook contained almost a

word-for-word account of everything that God revealed to Sunday the previous night.

## GOD WANTS TO USE HIM

“Right then and there, I realized, first of all, that I had had an encounter with the Living God and that He wanted to use me. Although, I was truly confused, you must realize that, at this time, I had never prayed longer than 15 minutes, I had never fasted for more than three hours in a day. I had not even been baptized in the Holy Spirit and I had only been a Christian for six months. I had never preached, surely, I did not know the Word of God and, in fact, I realized that I knew nothing about God. In all, I was really in doubt as to how these visions would be fulfilled, although, in my heart, I clearly knew that it was truly God who spoke to me. I also understood that if all this ever happened, I will not be the one to take credit for it.”

After some long deliberation, Sunday turned to the Lord and said, “God, let your will be done. As for me, I promise You that I will live a decent life, I will do my best to please you in everything and not to betray You.”

## TRIALS

It was hard to keep all the promises I had made to God while living in the Soviet Union. Believers, at that time, were persecuted and religion was prohibited by the law. Those who tried to pray openly were sent to the mental hospital immediately — and that was the best case. Imagine other consequences people went through after displaying their faith! Therefore, it was no wonder that as soon as Sunday first tried to talk with people about God they immediately considered him a potential patient of that medical facility. He had to hide in order to pray. He read his Bible mostly in the restroom; otherwise he would get into a lot of trouble. In the Soviet students’ dormitories, the government always put some native students among the foreigners to, as they claimed, “facilitate the process of learning Russian language.” But, in reality, these guys reported daily to the Komsomol Committee and the dean’s office, snitching on their foreign roommates.

One afternoon, shortly after enrolling in the university, Sunday was resting in his room when somebody began pounding on the door as if he was trying to break it. Scared and confused, he opened the door and saw a group of people led by the

dean of the preparatory department and the communist party secretary for the dormitory. Their mission was to pull down the picture of Jesus that Sunday hung on the wall above his bed. Sunday was given a choice: he was either to take away the picture or be expelled from the institute and sent back to Africa right away. “Without mincing words, I was reminded that I was living in a communist country where the only religion was atheism. Statute 35 in the criminal code prohibited religious propaganda,” the pastor recalls. “You can believe in your heart” they said, “but you don’t have any right to put pictures of Jesus on walls because the citizens of the Soviet Union must not see such things.”

He wanted to defend his Lord vehemently such that his eyes welled up in tears. But he heard a tender voice within saying, *“DDoonn”tt ttrryy ttoo ddeeffendd MMee nnooww.. TThhiiss wwoouulld noott bbee wwiise.. TTaakkee tthhee ppiiccttuurree ooffff tthhee wwaallll bbuutt ddoo nnoott lleet thheemm ttaakkee MMee oouutt ooff yyoouurr hheeaarrtt..”* Sunday brought down the picture and swore to himself that he will serve God in such a way that the people would see that He gave His life for them and wanted to help them; that He is not an icon but a true, living and loving Father. Sunday also decided that he would personally take up the responsibility to tell the truth about the Lord to the duped Soviet people.

SAYINGNOTOSIN

It is no secret that relationships between whites and blacks people are often strained. But in the 1990s, the people of the Soviet Union, especially the older generation, were very tolerant to young black people from Africa. They even befriended some of them. But the challenge was with the young Russians who ridiculed Africans; calling them derogatory names and, sometimes, beat them.

Regrettably, after the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Russian unseemly attitudes against the black people became worse, and there was no exception in Ukraine as well. The Africans that dated white girls suffered the most. Sunday did not have to worry about this because he did not date either white or black girls, though, lived not without the pressure. Surprisingly, it was his exemplary behavior that got people on edge. They would say to him, “Well, we can understand if you do not drink and smoke but why do you not go out with the girls?”

Sincerely speaking, there were lots of temptations; anyone who has ever lived at

a college dormitory knows that. Many foreign students, who grew up in an atmosphere of freedom and now suffering from tension and depression, eventually resorted to alcohol, fornication and lofty lifestyles in their efforts to relieve the stress. Sunday found another way to deal with this stress — the gym. But this had its other side as well. His muscular frame attracted girls' attention and he had to fight off their offers to "have a good time."

Besides this, his roommates would often bring in girls to stay for the night. Such things are hard to withstand both psychologically and physically, especially if you are between 19 and 20 years old. But Sunday was determined not to succumb to the common madness, and this decision helped him to oppose temptations. Once, he even spent a night in a room with a girl who tricked him to visit her but he was able to avoid sexual contact with her. He found out that she was hopelessly in love with him and knowing his inaccessibility, she decided to seduce him openly. But Sunday, tactfully and convincingly, stopped the girl from these impulsive actions.

Sunday's friend, Rufus Ajiboye, who now pastors a church in Latvia, witnessed many situations in young Sunday's life, including Sunday's opposition to sin, since their meeting in 1988. Here's what he has to say:

*"The choice of a life partner was a very difficult task which Sunday handled brilliantly.*
*In those days, very many sisters simply fell in love with Sunday since he is naturally, a very sociable person. Many sisters mistake his care for them as an unexpressed interest or as a sign that he was in love with them. There were those who were on the verge of committing suicide because he was not responding to their advances.*
*I remember how the father of one sister whose family migrated to the United States called one day and asked Sunday to talk to his daughter. This sister was not eating well since they arrived in the States; she said she did not want any thing in life any more; all she could think of was Sunday. There were other sisters who tried to tempt and seduce him to be with them. I was very often, beside him and witnessed the way he wisely handled and managed these pressures.*
*Pastor Sunday was very clear and definite about who would be his wife. This understanding and determination helped him to wait till the end. Sometime then, he called me in Minsk and said he met a sister that has almost all the criteria he requires in a woman for a life partner, though had not received any confirmation*

*in his spirit yet. After some time, he was going to Moscow through Minsk and we met at the train station, I asked him if he had settled the matter of who to marry, he told me when he comes back from Moscow he would be able to tell me who will be his wife. And that is exactly what happened. He came back from Moscow with solid assurance of who would be his life partner. God rewarded his faithfulness and patience and blessed him with a wonderful wife — Pastor Bose."*

Till now, Pastor Sunday, sometimes, has to fight off 'brides-to-be.' If he had such success when he was just a poor student from Africa, it is even more so now, considering his fame. I recall on, one occasion, he ran out of arguments and admonitions with another 'bride-to-be,' Pastor, finally, said to the woman in good humor, "Ok, God told you that you are to be my wife. But what shall we do about Bose?"

THE MOVE TO UKRAINE

In 1989, Sunday and some of his African Christian friends met with Baptists and Pentecostals from Minsk. They began to attend underground services and in 1990, when the religious climate improved, they began to go on evangelistic trips around Belarus, Baltic Republics, Russia and Ukraine. They preached in trains, trams, buses, underground passages and other public areas.

Valentin Novik was the youth leader in one of the Pentecostal churches where he met Sunday in 1989. He recalls:

*"It was very interesting for us to fellowship with him. First of all, because he was the first black person we met, secondly, because he was a Christian. His sincerity in worship and his emotional expression during the services were different from the things we had been taught in the Pentecostal church, but we still received him as he was: rejecting him was not a favorable option. As for me, I liked his peculiar way of worship. I was most impressed by his dedication and thirst for God because he was still a new convert.*

*I will never forget the time we gathered at Sunday's dormitory to pray. Sunday and his black friends prayed every day from 6 am to 7 am before going for lectures in the university. They also had all-night prayer meetings on Friday nights.*

*On that day, there were eight of us in the tiny dorm room. We began to pray…*

*fifteen minutes passed, and we were still praying. Another fifteen minutes passed, and the prayer still went on. Another thirty minutes passed, and there was no stop to it. By now, I was already out of topics to pray for but those black guys showed no signs of stopping. "These are supposed to be new converts!" I thought. The prayer continued, and then the anointing came… the guys began to jump, to clap their hands, to hop on one foot… I wasn't sure what I did more — praying or watching them. Having been a believer all my life (I grew up in a Christian family), I never saw such long and emotional prayer and, never before, prayed that long myself. At some point of this unusual prayer, I felt grace, anointing and the power of God. I fell on my knees and began to weep. God really broke me that day…*

*When, in 1990, the situation of the churches improved, we came out and began to go on evangelistic trips to different cities and villages. Sunday and his African friends often came along with us. On the way (which was anywhere from an hour to five hours) they would pray, prophesy and sing worship songs all the time. Of course, this inspired our Pentecostal youth.*

*When we and our African brothers came to a town or a village, we didn't have to invite people to a meeting because as soon as they saw black people they came running to see them wherever the meeting was held; at the main square or someone's home. When Sunday began to pray, the Holy Spirit came upon people. They felt it and formed a line to have him pray for them. Some even stood in line several times. "But you have already been prayed for!" I once told an old woman in one village when she came back in line to get another dose of prayer. "Oh, let this black guy pray for me again. I feel so good when he prays for me. I want more," the woman said. Even then, almost 20 years ago, people already felt God's power and glory emanating from Pastor Sunday, who at that time was simply Brother Sunday.*

*The church in Minsk was growing very fast at the time. When many people began to come to the youth meetings that we held together with Sunday, he rented a hall in a dormitory of Minsk Medical Institute where two of his African Christian friends lived. Opposite the dormitory, there is a cancer hospital where people who got leukemia after the Chernobyl nuclear disaster came for treatment. We began to invite them to our services. The patients would come to our meetings right in their hospital pyjamas and some of them were healed of cancer! The news of that spread around the city, and we even had a TV crew from a popular youth program visiting one of our services. They interviewed Sunday and then*

*aired a fiveminute segment of the Youth Christian Movement (that's how they dubbed our church) on Belarusian National Television. Back then, this was unheard of — to give so much air time to Christian activities and, especially, present them positively as well!*

*Today about 90% of that generation of young believers in the 80$^{s}$ and 90s who came in contact with Pastor Sunday in Belarus are now ministers of God. That's how his dedication to God, his openness and radical attitude influenced all of us. Back then, we didn't realize this with our minds but our spirit felt the anointing and the Spirit of God that was upon him.*

*"It was Pastor Sunday who taught me to be obedient to the Holy Spirit, which allowed Him to destroy all religiosity within me and to teach me to live by the leading of the Holy Spirit and according to the principles of God's Word."*

In 1992, Sunday's passport was confiscated because of his involvement in evangelism and he was advised to leave the country within two weeks. Somehow, the prayers about this problem seemed unanswered and the young man was already going to return to Africa. Suddenly, he received a message from some friends in Ukraine that there was a commercial TV channel in Kyiv, partly owned by an American missionary that was looking for a representative in Ukraine. The candidate must be a believer who speaks Russian and English and has a degree in Journalism. Sunday was the only one who had these requirements.

By this time, he had already planted a church in Minsk and helped some believers to plant two other churches.

Sunday Adelaja had spent seven unforgettable years in Belarus and expresses his gratitude to the people of Belarus among others:

To: *The Belarusian Christian Community and the entire nation of Belarus*

*"When I got to Russia, I was sent to Belarus and in Belarus I went to the Belarusian State University. I spent 7 years of my life in that country and I want to use this opportunity to thank the Belarusian people that, to a large extent, I didn't have many problems with the people. I am glad that you received me in your country and you gave me the education that I have today, which became the educational basis for my spiritual work. Thank you for teaching me the language*

*and for being able to finish my Masters degree in Journalism with honors from your esteemed university.*

*My appreciation and thanks go to all of my teachers, professors, all students that studied between 1987 and 1992, the whole people of Minsk and Belarus at large and, of course, to the Christian community that I got to know in 1989. Fellowship and relationship with you totally changed my life!*

*Belarus will always be my first love. I will never forget you and I will come back to give back to your country from all you have deposited in me.*

*Thank you and God bless you Belarus!"*
A DETACHED VIEW

Before we turn to the next page in pastor Sunday's life, let us get find out more of the events in his life back then, especially towards the end of the 80s and the early 90s.

Pastor Rufus was one of his closest allies:

Q: Which events in the life of Pastor Sunday did you witness?
PR: I got acquainted with Pastor Sunday Adelaja in the

autumn of 1988 and practically from that moment, we began to interact with each other as blood brothers. We fellowshipped together, laughed together, prayed together, strolled together and ministered together, therefore, I witnessed so many events in the life of the pastor, such as:

• How he searched for the baptism of the Holy Spirit;
• His first public ministry in a local church;
• How he chose his life partner;
• How he relates to people;
• How he handles life trial.

I remember how before Pastor Sunday received the baptism of the Holy Spirit, we both attended a conference in Kyiv where there was an alter call for those who wanted to be baptized in the Holy Ghost. Both of us went out for prayer, but it appeared as if all others received the baptism, except Pastor Sunday and I. Coming back to Minsk, I noticed how Pastor Sunday was praying in the spirit during one of our meetings. Surprised at that, I went to him after the meeting to

ask him how it happened. Smiling, he told me, “Since that time we were prayed for, I resolved, that I will not go out again for any alter call for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. I decided to just trust God for His promise until He by Himself will baptize me in the Holy Spirit.” And it turned out exactly that way.

One day, he was praying and, suddenly, he began to pray in the spirit in his new prayer language. Why have I related this event so detailed? It is because this has helped me to see the gift of faith in operation in the life of Pastor Sunday. Since that time, this gift is in strong operation in the life and ministry of Pastor Sunday.

This strong gift of faith, operating through him, lights in others the faith to believe God for the impossible. This instance strongly inspired me to trust God to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost. So, one morning, I rose up to pray and started to speak in other languages. It occurred 2 weeks after Pastor Sunday’s baptism in the Holy Ghost in his bathroom.

I remember another instance, when our students’ fellowship of which Pastor Sunday (simply brother Sunday then) was the leader, invited a group of fellow Christian students from Vinnitsa (Ukraine) for the New Year celebration. After our program, we were invited to a Pentecostal church in Minsk (Belarus) and we went there with our visitors from Vinnitsa.

Our visitors preached and ministered at the meeting that day and great miracles, signs and wonders were wrought through them. The gifts of revelation with such accuracy operated through them to the extent that we were soon invited back to minister in that church again in the following week. The problem was that our visitors left and we had never conducted such a service before then by ourselves. Pastor Sunday, as the leader of the fellowship at that time, stood up to that challenge without telling anybody. He went on absolute fast for some days and asked that God would repeat what happened when we had visitor and, even, wrought more miracles.

When he finished the fasting, he simply announced at one of our weekly meetings, that whoever wanted to experience undeniable miracles should not miss the meeting of the Pentecostal church the following Sunday. Surprisingly, the miraculous manifestations and testimonies in that meeting were far more than what we had in the previous meeting with our visitors from Vinnitsa. That meeting strongly inspired the whole of our fellowship to believe that God can work through us.

From that time on, we had no silent moment any more and, since that time, we were all over the country. We traveled all over the country to preach the gospel and, everywhere we went, the Lord confirmed our words with miracles, signs and wonders but, this time, not just through one person but all of us. As I already mentioned earlier, the gift of faith and supernatural boldness that operate through Pastor Sunday inspires many people and brings breakthrough to their lives.

Another aspect of Pastor Sunday's life is how he relates with people. He is a people lover and he really values people. I have always wondered about his ability to notice people in the crowd and pay attention to them. It can be in the midst of a big auditorium or it can be on the street during rush hours. Very often, when we take a stroll with him on the street, he will stop suddenly in the midst of the crowd and indicate someone to be our brother or sister in the Lord that we should go to the person. This may be someone he had met only once before. When I try to talk him out of it, he will say: let's just give it a trial. Almost every time, when we eventually meet the people, he is not only right but remembers them by their names as well. I am always surprised at that but now I understand that it is the expression of his intimate attitude and care for people.

Whenever he meets people he has not seen after a very long period of time, he still remembers what they talked about before and the problem they discussed with him back then. This is a sure proof that he listens to people's heart, not just at the level of the mind like many people do today but with great attention of the heart. As a result of this kind of attitude, people love him and like to confide in him. I see how people rush to him for advice every time I travel with him to different places. They entrusted him with their secrets because they see that he is not unconcerned with their destiny and he has a positive outlook on life.

Pastor Sunday has always been loved by people because he loves people and likes to communicate with them. He is very hospitable and always invites people to himself. When he was a student, his room was always filled with people. He likes to talk to people, know them closely, encourage and inspire them.

Another aspect of Pastor Sunday's life that is worth mentioning is his sacrificial life. He is a giver who is ready to give all he has for the benefit of others. It is very difficult for him to say no when someone asks him for something he can afford. I have seen over the years how many people misused his gift of kindness, yet he will not change or get discouraged.

His great sense of humor always differentiates him from others. As young student preachers, we always felt his absence greatly every time he was not with us either in the meetings or on a ministry trip. It is always very interesting to be around him because of his ability to celebrate and elevate people, make people feel welcome and create warmth.

I am a witness of many tests and trials in the life of Pastor Sunday:

For example, on three occasions, thieves burgled into his apartment. I have witnessed his reactions when people threatened him, called him names, laugh at him or made fun of him. And this is what I can say: in all of these cases, I have never seen him change his mood or demonstrate fear of any kind. He is always the same cheerful person he used to be. I have hardly ever seen him in a bad mood. He never mourns about what has already taken place, he just moves ahead to make new plan of action and proceed with his drawn out schedules.

In all these years that I have known Pastor Sunday, I can truly say he is a very bold and secured person, who is not afraid for his life and who holds unto nothing but God.

Q: How does Pastor Sunday react to trials of life? PR: He always looks at life positively. His attitude and approach to life have been very positive ever since I knew him. I am yet to see him become a victim of any circumstances of life. He always learns what he needs to learn from the difficulties and trials of life and then moves ahead instead of focusing on the negative side of situations. For example, one day we were taking a walk together on the street and some people were making jest of us and laughing at us, some of us were very upset with that but Pastor Sunday said, “thank God at least that they have a reason to laugh today.” He will always look for something positive in any bad situation, so it is very rare to get him caught up in the negatives. He has this special grace and ability to give his burdens to the Lord and never think any more about them. I think, that is why he can easily fall asleep immediately he lays his head on his pillow even during the storm as Jesus did.

Q: What lessons did you learn from pastor Sunday during the time you spent together with him? PR: Through pastor Sunday I saw in operation such

qualities as:
• Consistency: When every body throws in the towel, he will be the last to do

that. Giving up is not in his vocabulary, he enjoys facing challenges. I remember, when in our student's fellowship, we decided to gather for prayer once in a week and very often, I came later because my classes were all in the afternoon, that most of the times, when I came, he would be the only one praying. Even though nobody showed up, he would still begin to pray alone without waiting for others. He does not surrender easily because of his willingness to pay the price it takes to reach his goal.

• Purpose driven: When he sets goals before himself, he will pursue it to the victorious end. I remember how Pastor Sunday said we should organize a school of ministry for one young church in Minsk in the beginning of the nineties. I wasn't very sure of the viability of such a project, but owing to his ability to focus on purposes and goals, this school, eventually, became a tremendous blessing for that church. All the key leaders of the church including the pastor himself finished the school and were greatly inspired. Pastor Sunday believes that you already have enough to begin something great. He infects every one around him with this kind of thinking and challenges them to aspire to fulfill their dream.

• Courage and boldness: One thing I have always learned and I am still learning from Pastor Sunday is boldness and courage. His presence always inspired me to be bold and courageous. Despite the fact that he doesn't like conflicts, he still has the wisdom and the boldness to go against the current whenever necessary. In order to protect the truth, he will confront anybody. Ever since I knew Pastor Sunday, he has always demonstrated an unusual level of confidence and fearlessness. Of course, that has grown tremendously since that time. The boldness and the confidence with which he speaks and acts launch you out into a different dimension. For example, it was his confidence and boldness that brought our group out of obscurity into the limelight. After the first miracle crusade in a Pentecostal church in Minsk, we did not only believed what we already knew in the head, we launched out to put action to our faith. That was the birth of our country wide crusade. Up till this very moment, if you spend time around Pastor Sunday, one of the things you will notice is his boldness and fearlessness that are very infectious. My interaction with Pastor Sunday, up till now, releases a new level of confidence in me. His confidence makes you to believe in your calling and in yourself. I believe the secret of his confidence is his knowledge of God. Head knowledge doesn't impart confidence. Only those who truly know their God will be bold to act.

• Intellectual development: In the beginning of my Christian life I paid attention only to the spiritual aspect of life and consider every other thing as worldly. I spiritualized everything until I met with Pastor Sunday. My meeting with him

helped me to understand that God wants us to develop in our spirit, soul and body. I remember when I just got acquainted with Pastor Sunday. My first impression was that he was just a nominal Christian with a shallow relationship with God and that he was probably not born again. The reason is the he laughed too much, joked, watched boxing and other games. However, when we became close friends, I saw that he is a deep Christian with strong convictions and that he loves the Lord. He was simply delivered from religious representation of the Christian faith. I discovered I was deceived to judge Christians by outward appearance instead of the fruits of their lives. He went to a sport hall; he listened not only to Christian news, but to world news so as to be informed about all the happenings around us. He read instructive books, not only of Christian authors. That was why he could communicate freely and interestingly with people on different topics. That was a big revelation to me back then. I used to think it is because of his pursuit of journalism, but now I know it is the way of life of somebody who is always learning something new and working on his personal development.

• A man of strong conviction. Once he made up his mind about something, it is very difficult to change his mind. I believe that is the key to his ability to focus and bring every conceived idea to fruition. He has the ability to follow through. I have seen many people make declaration of their intentions, desires or purpose in life, even though, they are very sincere about these but they never materialize. I am an eye witness to dozens of things that Pastor Sunday declared then that are now undeniable realities. For example, the Joshua Bible Institute, his life goals before and after forty. Before he says it, he had already seen it and he is also ready to give it whatever it takes to achieve it, face any challenges and overcome them.

• Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit. Because of this sensitivity, he always birth new plans, projects and strategies.

• Strong level of integrity and self discipline. He does not just throw words in to the air or make empty promise but follows through to the end. To me, when Pastor Sunday makes any decision, it is a done deal. Because, since I knew him, everything he said he will do, he has always followed through. I remember one morning in 1995, he woke up and told me he had a dream about starting a Bible school. So, he said I am putting a plan up to start this school. This school will train leaders and missionaries. He said that he saw that this school will have a very great influence. It looked practically impossible at that time, but today the Joshua Bible Institute and the other educational branches of God’s Embassy Academies have trained leaders and sent out thousands of missionaries all over the country and also into different other nations of the world.

• Farsighted and strategic. Pastor Sunday has grace and special ability to see far ahead, and this gift helps him lead people and give them direction. It is no secret that you cannot lead people unless you know where you are going and how to get there. This quality also helps him to see what people around him can become and then encourage and inspire them to become just that. One of his popular sayings is follow me and you will become somebody. This is the confidence of a person who knows where he is going, how to get there and how to help others reach their goal. Pastor Sunday has the ability to see how to change the most hopeless situation.
• Simplicity. Pastor Sunday is a very simple and a reachable person. Not minding his achievements today, this quality still stands out very prominently in him. Because he is a people lover, he always likes to go out to them and talk with people. He does not like it when people are not allowed to see him unless it is not the right time or situation. He can stop what he is doing (even preaching) to give attention to someone. That is unusual today in many places.
• Dedication and passion for God. His passion and dedication to God is infectious.
• Sincerity and absence of falsehood. He is natural everywhere, and it even seems to me that if he tries to play the hypocrite it won't turn out well.
• Always fresh and ready. This quality has increased and developed over the years because of the greater load of responsibility. Pastor Sunday could get off the plane and give interview on political issue, finish from there and go to preach; come from the pulpit to give consultation on financial issue and so on. He is always ready. He is a living demonstration of the call to be ready in season and out of season.
• Breakthrough anointing. When things seem to get tough and the atmosphere seems heavy or people are not open or receptive. He has a way of saying or doing things that changes the environment. All of a sudden, people just open up. I remember a crusade we did in Baranovichi (Belarus). One afternoon, it seems we could not get any one to testify of the several healings and miracles that took place. Pastor Sunday went up and when he finished addressing the people, we had to stop the testimonies before we could continue with other programs.

Spending time with Pastor Sunday gave me the opportunity to learn many lessons and to refine many fine qualities. I am simply very glad to have the opportunity of knowing him very closely, be around him and observe him in different life situations. These lessons still inspire me till now, both in a life and in ministry.

Q: How have these lessons affected your private life and ministry?
PR: As I have already said, the life of Pastor Sunday

constantly inspires me and has become an excellent model, especially, many qualities that are necessary for a successful life and ministry. It is easy to learn when you see in practice the lessons of a life which you are trying to acquire. Whenever I am faced with different situations, I see Pastor Sunday to be forerunner, I often recollected how he handled the situations and that instills in me faith, courage and hope. I try to imitate those bible qualities which I see in him. And I wish to thank God for the influence of Pastor Sunday Adelaja in my life and ministry. As his bosom friend, I want to say God has used and still using him to sharpen me. There is a great merit of Pastor Sunday in my achievements in life and ministry today. He has always encouraged me, lifted and believed in me, even then, when I do not believe in myself anymore. Fellowship with him always pushes me forward and expands my vision. Thank you Pastor Sunday for been a true friend, model and helper!

KYIV, UKRAINE

In April of 1993, Sunday moved from Minsk to Kyiv and started working at Channel 7. His Christian programs and television sermons were aired for almost a whole year and were viewed by many residents of Kyiv. Sunday was content with his life as a journalist. He lived a normal life. But God soon began to tell him about planting a mega church in Kyiv. Pastor Sunday remembered how he had to hand over the church he had earlier pastor in Belarus to another pastor by the direction of the Holy Spirit, as well as two other churches that he has helped to plant there. The Lord had already asked him to found churches before in Belarus, but He did not allow him to remain the pastor for long.

As a result, he told God frankly, “Lord, how long will I labor in other people’s gardens? Maybe this is just not my calling? Maybe I am called to be a preacher instead of a pastor? Why should I start a new church?” He was afraid that if he plants a church again, later, God may tell him to hand it over to someone else.

But God responded to Sunday, saying,

*“I took those ministries away from you so that you wouldn’t love the church more than Me. I want your heart to belong to Me only. I want to be the only One who is precious to you. And I want you to serve My people only. Here, in Kyiv a*

*great work will start, and this work I give you to do. This will be the beginning of your glorious journey, and Kyiv will become the headquarters of all that I am going to do through you all over the world."*

Sunday spent time from July to September, 1993, in prayer and fasting between four and six hours daily, thereafter, he came to the conclusion that he was to start a church with a small Bible study group. In November of that same year he announced on TV that he was inviting people to join this group. The first seven people who responded to that invitation began to meet at his apartment near Polytechnic Institute in Kyiv. Not long after that they moved to a classroom in the institute close by.

## THE FIRST SEVEN

It was difficult at initially. The people who responded to his invitation to study the Bible didn't understand many things. Besides that, for quite a long time — about two to three months — the group could not go grow and remained seven people. People would come and go all the time. Sometimes, there was a set of seven people, on other meeting; there would be five or four among those seven that initially started. At a point, only one person remained. But even with such fluctuations seven permanent members formed the group. Sunday established the church with seven members in January, 1994. Five of those seven have since become faithful ministers of God. They are Natalia Potopayeva, Valentina Chabannaya, Nadezhda Vlasenko, Vera Melnik and Yury Mischenko.

Here's what Pastor Natalia Potopayeva has to say about Pastor Sunday and the early days of the ministry:

PN: Pastor Sunday's invitation to the Bible study has changed my entire life. When I heard this announcement on the TV, I grabbed a pencil and quickly walked across the room on the clean carpet in my muddy boots in order to write down the address. Only then, looking at the footprints on the carpet, I asked myself: what happened to me? I could not wait for that meeting. To me, it felt like New Year's Eve, an expectation of a miracle…

At that point in my life, I was looking for deliverance from about 30 years of addiction to alcohol. At that time, I was presented with a bible. As I took it from the person with all excitement, I felt it could help me… but how? I did not understand a word in it. That was when we received the invitation to Pastor

Sunday's Bible study group. I was present at the meeting; this was in 1993, November 19th, if I remember correctly. Since that day, my life changed radically.

Q: What did you like about Pastor Sunday when you first met him?
PN: When we first met, he was still a very young man.

He was 26. Back then, he spoke Russian language badly and I had a hard time understanding him. On the other hand, he was so charming, and this appealed to me, a rejected person who has never been treated with such sincerity and goodness before. I even admitted to him right away that I was suffering from alcohol addiction, and he wasn't taken aback at all. On the contrary, he smiled at me, took me by the hand and said, "You will never drink again, and you will become a great preacher, you'll see." These words amazed me. On the way home after that meeting, I thought, "He added that stuff about being a preacher on purpose so that I would come back again. He really didn't have to. I'll come back anyway."

As I got to know the pastor more and more, I realized that he is unique, I had never met such a person before. He was always full of love. He accepted everybody and listened to each person as though they were great and significant. Most importantly, I saw that he was not asking anything in return — no money for the studies, nothing. He simply taught us how to become better.

I realized that he was lonely here without his relatives, and I really wanted to help him as though he was my son. But, in spite of my motherly instinct, I sensed that he was much older than me in many ways, so I respected this young man the same way I would respect my father.

When the church was started and I began to know God better, I saw that Pastor Sunday had become not only a guide to Jesus for me but also a person I sincerely wanted to look up to. I did not know how to live right so I watched how he lived. I saw that he practiced what he preached. The things he taught and preached he used in his own life. At that time, I was with him all the time, thus, I saw him at home and in the streets meeting with people, as well as in other places.

I always turned to Pastor Sunday for advice, I listened to him and tried to be obedient to him. He never had to ask me twice about anything because his word was like a law for me. Even when I did not know how to accomplish the task he

had given, I knew that I had to do this no matter what.

I am sure that my obedience to God began with this unquestioning obedience to Pastor Sunday and my willingness to please him in every way.
Q: Did the pastor ever share anything about his past with you? Did he tell you anything about his childhood?
PN: I was raised by my grandmother. And since I

drank for many years our relationship had gone bad. Even after I got saved it remained that way for a while. When Pastor Sunday first came to visit us, my grandma stepped out of her room, saw a black guy and said, “You’ve gone totally crazy, Natasha!” But I explained to her that this is my pastor. Later, after she saw him on TV, her attitude toward him changed. One day, when the pastor and I were having dinner, my grandma came out of her room and began to stare at him. I realized that any person would feel uncomfortable when being stared at like that. I told her, “Why did you come out, Grandma? Go back to your room.” I will always remember what happened next: Pastor said to me, “Natasha, why do you tell your grandma to go away? Don’t do this again, one day, you too will be old just like her. What you sow is what you reap. You know, I was also raised by my grandma and, only after she died, I realized that I have lost the person who was dearest to me. If your grandma’s presence annoys you, then you do not love her” “What do you mean I do not love her? After all, she raised me!” I said. But Pastor Sunday continued, “The Bible says that love does not get irritated.” I was so flabbergasted that all my irritation towards my grandma vanished. After this, he turned to my grandmother and said, “You need to receive Jesus as your Lord and Savior.” “Why not,” she replied, “It won’t cost me anything.”

That is how I found out that Pastor Sunday was raised by his grandmother. But, usually, he never spoke about his life except, occasional, during sermons: that his father used to beat his mother, and that is why her parents took her back home; that he grew without a father but never felt inferior because of that. He never had self-pity because he is free in Jesus Christ.

Q: Has anything in regards to his character changed since you met him?
PN: Over ten years ago, he was a young pastor hardly

known by anybody. Today, he is a great man known all over the world. But he remained nice, simple, accessible and charming just as he was many years ago. However, there are people, just as there were back then, who accused him of

being proud. But as for me, I didn’t seen any pride in him then, and I don’t see it now either.

Of course, he has mature, become wiser, though he was always wise. I have just recently listened to a collection of his sermons and I was amazed at the things that he prophesied. Back then, we didn’t recognize it but we see these things with our eyes today. All these changes in Ukraine were effected through the influence of one man who is chosen by God and remained obedient to Him. I think that the pastor simply got into God’s project for that time. You know, it is possible to be God’s chosen, and start His projects but if you don’t show diligence, nothing will happen. Pastor Sunday is diligent in everything. He is diligent in his ministry to his family just as he is diligent in his ministry in the church. His goal was to become an ideal husband, father, administrator and businessman — and not just to become, but to teach his children these things as well. And all of us are his children. He wants to see his extension in us. Just like any father, he wants his success to become ours.

Q: What does pastor Sunday mean to you? PN: After Jesus, Pastor Sunday is number one authority in my life. He is most of all a pastor, spiritual father and a teacher to me. He is also my friend because I can’t share with anybody else like I can with him and his wife, Bose. Pastor Sunday is also a son to me because he is the same age as my own son.

Q: How do you feel when the newspapers, especially Ukrainian ones, throw mud at the pastor? Does it bother you when people who do not even know him abuse him?
PN: At first, it used to bother me a lot. But pastor

taught me to rejoice in those moments because, firstly, bad publicity is the best publicity, and secondly, this shows that he is going in the right direction. He explained to me that the devil simply uses some people as his tools and he taught me to love these people, to have mercy on them because they don’t really know what they do. But as soon as pastor’s enemies get a chance to meet him personally they become his friends. Pastor promoted a book recently that was written by a former gangster. After hearing many tales about pastor, he hated him so much that he came to kill him. But when he met the pastor personally he fell in love with him right on the spot.

Q: Pastor Sunday has great plans for the future. Do you believe he will be able to

accomplish them?

PN: I don’t have any doubts about it. I remember how we rented a hall with 1, 500 seats when we just started the church — and only 48 people came! I wasn’t discouraged but said, “Pastor, soon this hall will be filled and overflowing with people, and even the people who sit in the back rows will be so exalted that others will consider it an honor to simply touch them.” “Do you believe this?” Pastor asked me. “Yes!” I said.

Yes, I believe that he’s got a worldwide ministry. I never doubted that the 500 million people that God showed him are already there and that we will see this come to pass. I never doubted that he will not only be a millionaire, but a billionaire. I see this man’s phenomena and I know that all these are happening because of his labor and his diligence in being an obedient son of His heavenly Father.

Q: What would you want to wish for Pastor Sunday?
PN: As a believer I wish Pastor Sunday to accomplish

all God’s plans here on earth, so that when the time come for him to stand before Jesus Christ, he wouldn’t have to be ashamed.

THE BEGINNING

On February 6, 1994, Pastor Sunday and his team held the first three-day evangelism crusade in Kyiv, which was the start of the Word of Faith Church that later became the Embassy of the Blessed Kingdom of God for All Nations. After the first meetings, they had 49 people.

Now Pastor Sunday had a new goal: to bring a hundred people to this new church every month. To accomplish this goal, he began to pray and to work like never before. In a year, he traveled around the city, pleading with the Lord to help the people to hear the Gospel. However, at that time, there was a spiritual darkness over the city. He, first, felt it in 1992 when he came to visit Kyiv on a tour. He remembered how he saw a huge spiritual dark cloud over the city and said, “Lord, raise a person in this country who would break this cloud.” One year later, he became that person.

The young pastor realized that he could begin nothing without a word of revelation from God. Therefore, he began to pray, asking God, “Why do You

need this church, Lord?" And God told him, "Here's the master plan: first, raise a church for Me, having thousands of people in it. Second, build some mega churches all around Europe. The entire plan would not only be building large churches, but to raise people and to turn them to God, to help those who the devil has used to spread the communist vandalism to become the nation known as the carrier of the gospel of Jesus Christ." Sunday's task was to prepare missionaries and to send them into the entire world, especially to those countries where the Soviet government used to send weapons of mass destruction — to China, the Middle East and Eastern Europe. Contemplating the things he heard, Sunday was asking himself whether he was ready to heed the call of God and to do His will…

## THE INCREDIBLE HAPPENS

What happened in the following 13 years after the events described earlier, cannot be described in any other way but as a miracle. The Embassy of the Blessed Kingdom of God for All Nations with its Senior Pastor, Sunday Adelaja, is currently the largest church in Europe. In Kyiv alone over 25,000 people attend the weekly services in more than 30 centers opened by the Embassy of God and located in different areas of the nation's capital.

Besides this, over 500 sister churches in 40 nations were planted during this period. *"I knew that the church would grow but I would never have guessed that it would grow this big…"* Pastor Sunday is quoted in the "Washington Post" article titled, "Nigerian Preacher as the Pastor of The Largest Church in Ukraine."

The article also says,

*"Sunday Adelaja is a black man in the country noted for its rampant racism, a protestant in a country known as the birthplace of the Russian Orthodox Church. He is a foreigner whose vibrant style of preaching accompanied with electronic keyboards and pretty girls dancing and singing on the stage somehow clashes with the traditional and reserved view of faith that Ukrainians adhere to… Sharing the message of hope and redemption, which boils down to "you can make it," and coupled with free meals and counseling services for alcoholics and drug addicts, the Embassy of God church has grown from a ministry to dysfunctional people and misfits into the first mega church in the former Soviet Union, which now has over 25,000 members."*

Here's what Reuters News agency has to say about Pastor Sunday in its article titled, "African Missionaries Bring Religion To The West":

*"A Nigerian Pastor Sunday Adelaja was one of the first missionaries to Ukraine, where he founded an independent church "The Embassy of God.. At the church's services people dance and listen to encouraging messages. The church has about 25,000 members, almost all of them whites, and is one of the largest churches in Europe."*

The interest in the activities of the Embassy of God and Pastor Sunday caused reporters from the BBC to come to Kyiv and spent several days. Pastor Sunday's TV programs are now being aired by ABC-TV, CBN and many other channels. TBN, the largest Christian television network, has been airing Embassy of God's programs for several years now.

The recognition by well-known Christian leaders and by other people (whom we'll talk about later), the love of thousands of people around the world, gratitude, honor, flowers and gifts — all this can easily go to anybody's head. But it is different with Pastor Sunday. Why is that so? Because he always remembers who he was when God found him and, therefore, he never takes credit for anything but always expresses thanks to God and people whom He brings into his life for His purposes. The humble heart of Pastor Sunday realizes that without God and people he is nothing. He is just a black guy from a backward village in the middle of a tropical forest.

WHY WAS PASTOR SUNDAYABLETOBUILD THIS WORLDWIDE MINISTRY?
The answer to this question has already been given in throughout the pages of this book.

1. It is because of Pastor Sunday's love for God and his obedience to God in everything.
2. It is because he cares for people's needs and ministers to people as individuals.

Of course there are other factors that contributed to Pastor Sunday's success in ministry.

Pastor Viktor Lutsyk first met Pastor Sunday in the summer of 1991 when Sunday was still a student of the Belarussian State University. He spent several

years in close fellowship with Pastor Sunday and here is what he has to say:

*"We came to Minsk, Belarus, with a worship team and some ministers from America to start a church and accidentally met some Africans near a hotel,"* Pastor Viktor recalls. *"Among them was one energetic and smiling young man by the name Sunday. Our second meeting was two years later in Kyiv, in St. James' International College. At that time, Sunday came to Kyiv to work as a TV journalist and I was starting a church. Sunday invited me and my wife, Alla, to his TV program to share our testimony, and we gladly agreed to come. Since that time, we became close friends and then the New Generation Church was born. It was founded by me, my wife and Pastor Sunday."*

*"From 1993 to 1995 I pastor this church of 120 people, Pastor Sunday worked on TV, and in 1994, after a revelation from God, he started the Word of Faith Church (later the Embassy of the Blessed Kingdom of God for All Nations) in Kyiv."*

*"In 1995, God told me to join the New Generation Church to the Embassy of God church and to put myself under the leadership of Pastor Sunday. That's how we began serving God and people together.*

*"During the time of our work together as a team, we have seen many miracles and supernatural manifestations of God in our lives and in the lives of many people who were miraculously saved, delivered and restored in their personal, family and social lives."*

What was Pastor Viktor's answer to the question of how Pastor Sunday was able to build such a ministry that is now known all over the world? What is so special in this person that allowed God to manifest Himself so mightily through him?

Pastor Viktor says, *"First, it is the combination of the serpent's wisdom and of dove's gentleness in Pastor Sunday and second, his freedom from people's opinion and from 'cultural' traditions of Ukrainian people. It is his completely un-religious and un-soviet mentality and non-traditional view of all things that allowed Pastor Sunday to see clearly, to walk boldly and to accomplish his tasks since his first days in Soviet Union and in Ukraine.*

*Another component of the pastor and his ministry's worldwide success is the secret room and daily fellowship with God (Luke 6:12; 9:18 etc.).*

*By self-education, reading books and listening to sermons, as well as by writing his own books, pastor Sunday has created for himself his own atmosphere that allows him to live in another dimension.*

*His continuous positive outlook (Philippians 4:8) and the constant fellowship of his soul and the spirit of God also helped the pastor to reach such great heights. At the same time his not forgetting about other people, continuing to stay faithful to God and to his commitments, and remaining diligent in organizing work.*

*Another important character trait Sunday has, is that he leads people by example, not only by instruction; he doesn't control or owe people but watches over them and lovingly corrects them; whenever the need arises. (Most spiritual leaders do it the other way around.)*

*Being a disciplined person himself, the pastor instills discipline into other people, especially the leaders. And not everybody has enough courage to discipline their leaders. He also uses other people's time and resources for the benefit of God's kingdom, never for his own personal gain. Jesus Christ did the same (Luke 8:3).Pastor Sunday also tries to implement everything he hears from God quickly."*

These are some conclusions of one person who really knows Sunday Adelaja.
FUTURE PLANS
Pastor Sunday has a lot and all kinds of future plans.

1. He wants to bring five million Ukrainians to God. Moreover, he wants them to get rooted in churches and become truly born-again and active believers.

2. Some of his other dreams include bringing half a billion people all over the world to God and firmly rooting them.

3. To plant at least 10,000 churches and raise 50,000 ministers.
4. The most important part of all his plans is that Sunday Adelaja is confident that the Lord is calling him to reform Christianity. This is his mission on earth, and he is determined to do it! His heart's desire is for the church to come alive and to become victorious with God's help, so that people all over the world would talk about God's power and that everybody would realized that believers are the best people in the society regardless of what church they attend.

In other words, Sunday Adelaja wants the sleeping giant to wake up.

However, goals are not the highest thing for him. His main priorities in life include:

1. Fellowshipping with God, who will in time cause every thing to come to pass through him.
2. In order to reach goals, he needs self-discipline and determination. Without developing these qualities it is pointless to set goals.
3. Therefore the pastor believes that self-improvement and self-discipline is much more important than our goals. Unless we work on ourselves, we will never reach our goals! That's why he works on himself all the more every day, striving to improve his self-discipline and his knowledge of God.

When this book was almost finished, a letter was brought to the publishing house by people from the church office. We feel it serves as a logical conclusion for this chapter. Below, we present the abridged version.

*"Dear Pastor Sunday,*

*Greetings! When I heard the news about the most expensive dress in the world — a diamond dress that costs 17 million dollars — I remembered a dream that God showed me back in the summer of 2006. I want to share it with you because I believe this dream is prophetic and it concerns all our Embassy of God churches.*

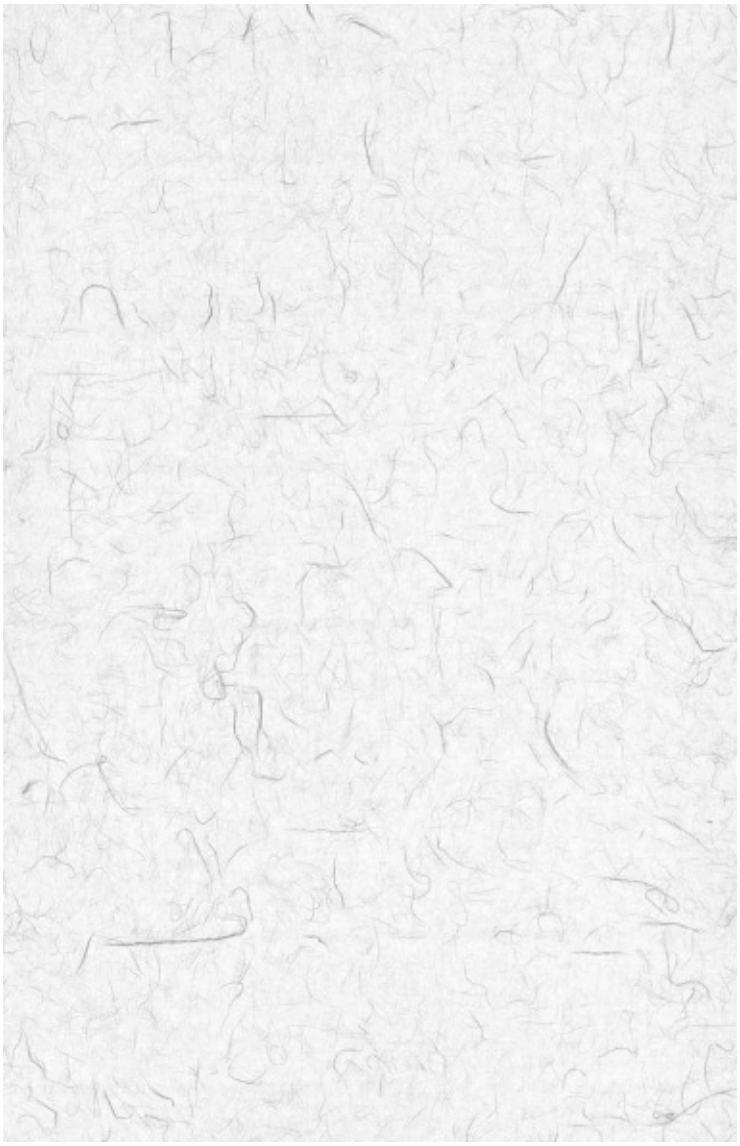
*The dream went as follows:*
*It all happened during our church service. As the praise and worship session was coming to a close, you and Pastor Bose entered the sanctuary and slowly approached the stage. You were wearing a very expensive tail coat, a bow tie and a white shirt, and Pastor Bose was wearing a dress, and this dress was amazing! It sparkled and radiated dazzling light. It looked like a wedding gown or a ballroom-dress, and it was all strewn with diamonds from top to bottom! Pastor Bose simply sparkled and radiated in it! That dress from the news simply can't be compared to Pastor Bose's dress. The dress in the news simply had some diamonds at the top, but Pastor Bose's dress was completely made out of diamonds! I realized that this dress is unique.*
*Both of you stopped at the first row, and began to praise and worship God. At this time, my wife came to you and asked when you would preach, but you told her, "There will be no preaching! The victory is already won! Let's praise God!" And the whole church continued to worship and to praise God!*
*Then, I received the interpretation of this dream in the spirit.*

*1. The absolute or full victory is won in the spiritual world for our church (and in January, you announced that the year 2007 will be the year of absolute victory). 2. Pastor Bose, in this dream, is the state of the church.*
*New garments; a new level of prosperity and wellbeing for the Embassy of God.*
*3. God wants to make his church rich not only in the spiritual but also in the material.*
*4. The whole world's attention will be drawn to the shining of glory of God, that the Embassy of God church will radiate.*
*What I see in our church now, pastor, is a clear confirmation of this dream. Thank you very much for your deep sermons and totally amazing teachings on business, finances and prosperity. Thank you for breaking our 'soviet,' post-communist mentality and compelling us to think big, rich and successful in all areas. Thank you for your care for each one of us and for your hard work.*

With honor, Your disciple, Victor Chernyavsky



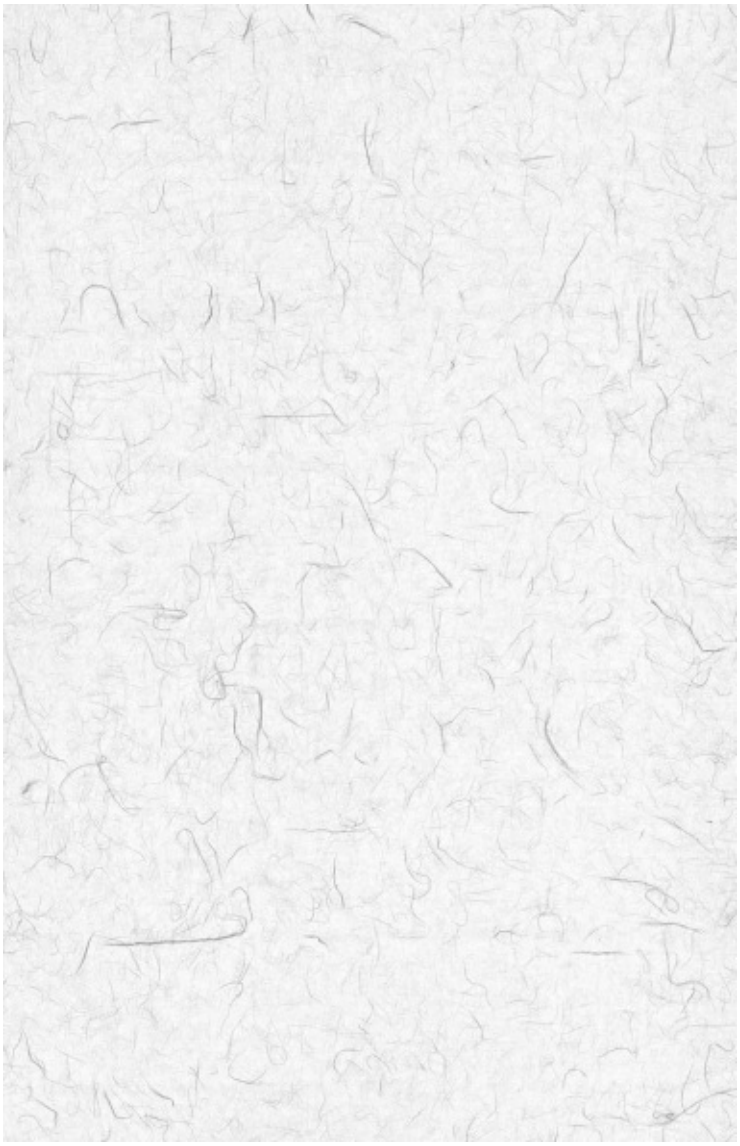
**Sunday the**



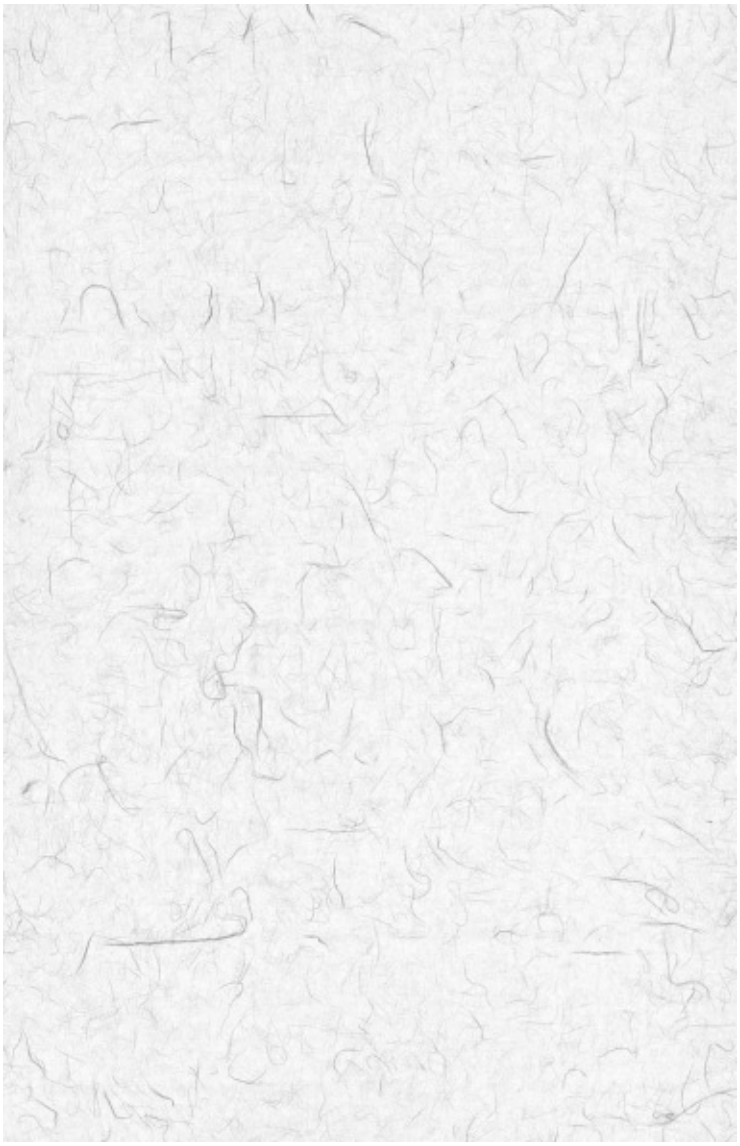
**student Russian winter**



**With his friend Rufus**



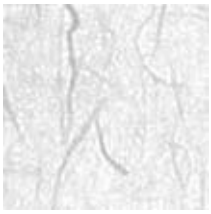
**A healthy body houses a healthy spirit**
**Underground church meetings With Victor Lutsyk**
**Evangelical trips throughout the Soviet Union**



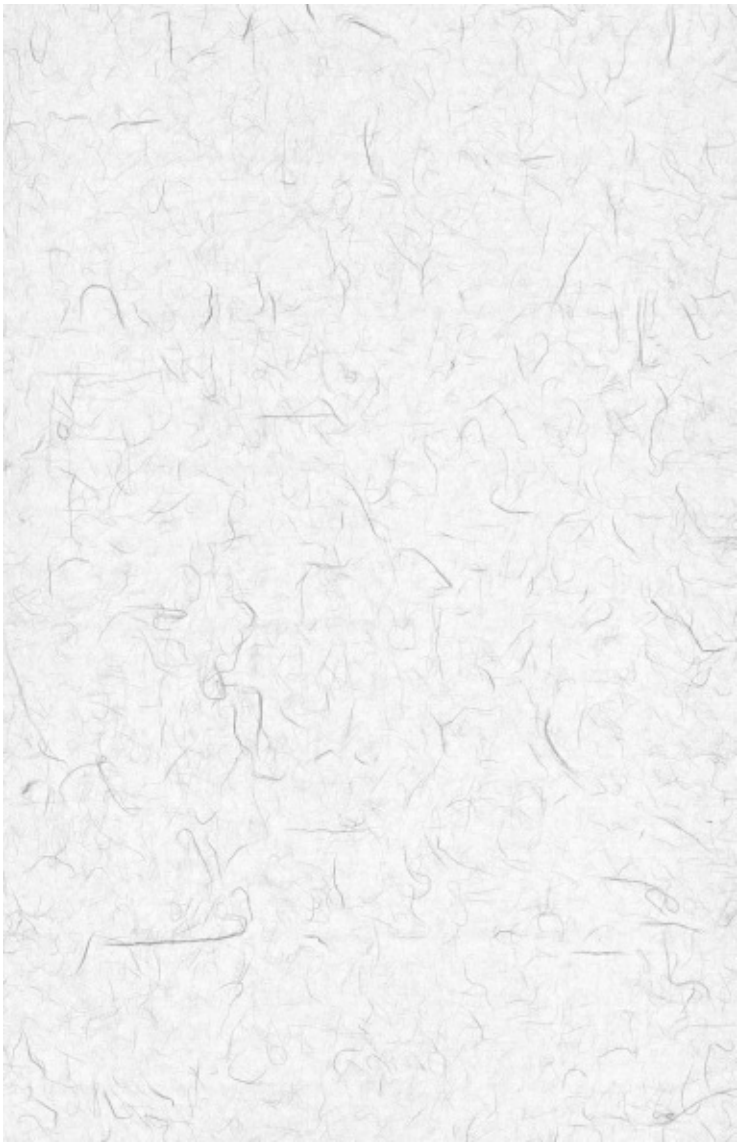
**Introduction to Russian Christians Pastor Natalya Potopayeva**
**Opening a new church in Kyiv**
**Water Baptism**



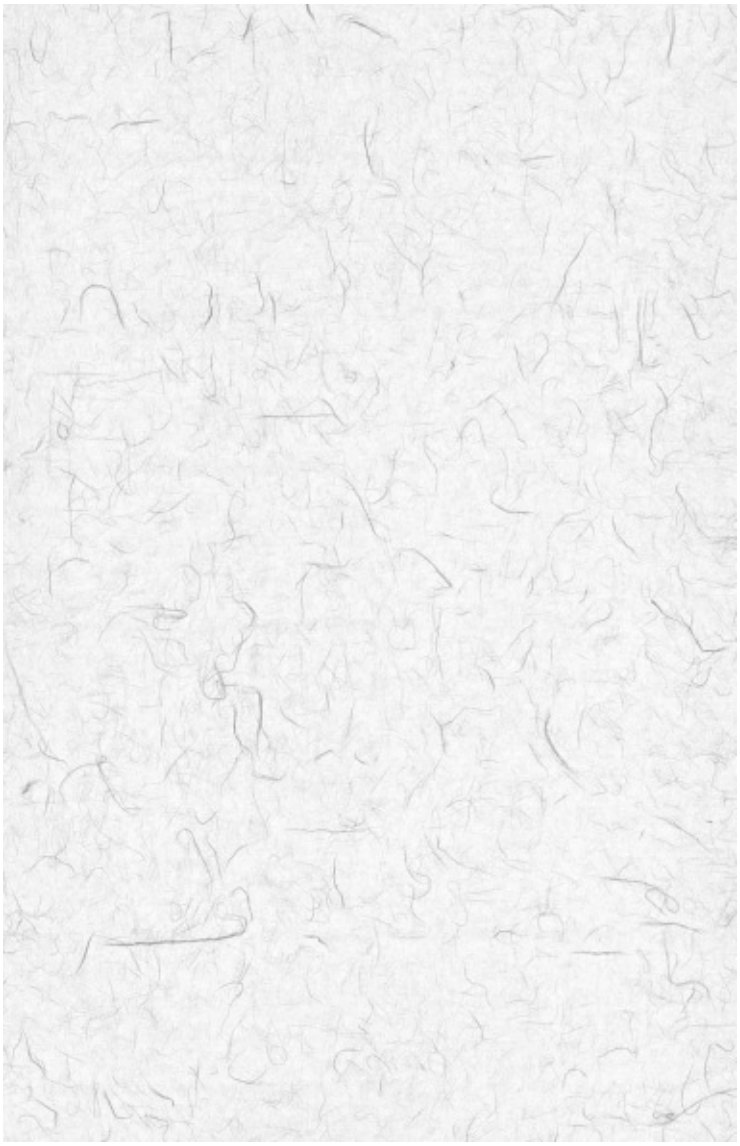
## The first Spiritual Council of



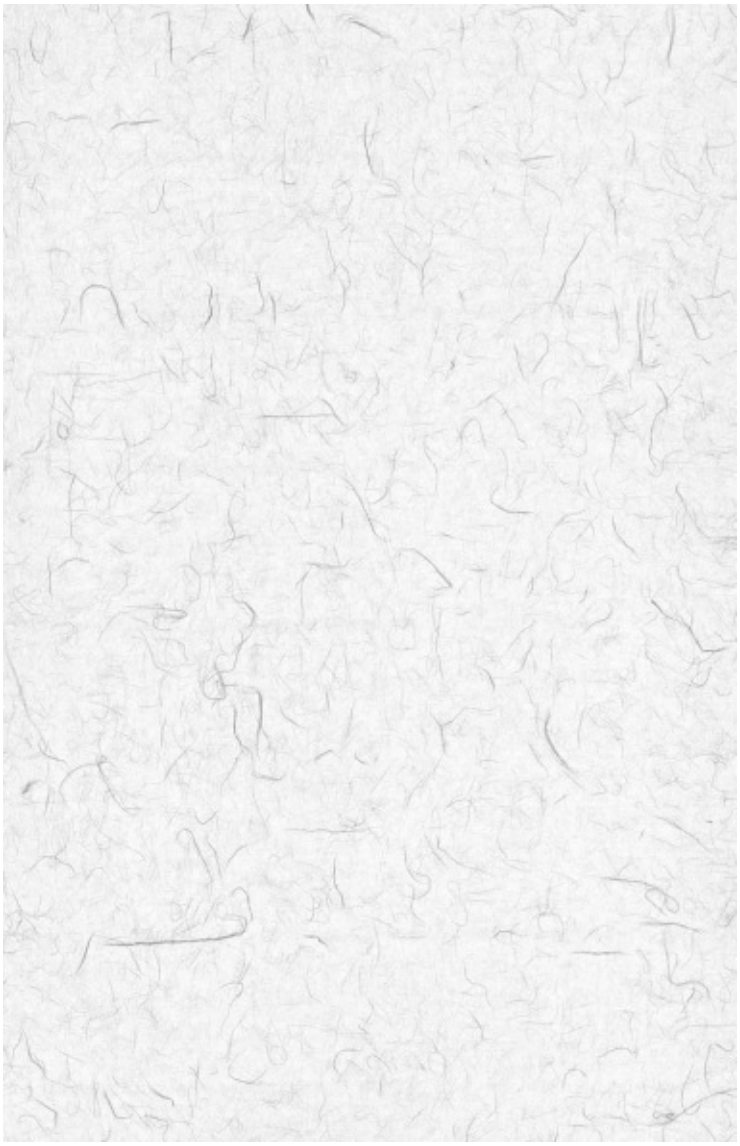
## The Word of Faith church Sunday’s spiritual father Apostle Ulysess Tuff



## First years of the church



**The Embassy of God. Year by Year**



**T. L. Osborne**



**Dr. Myles Munroe Dr. Peter Daniels**



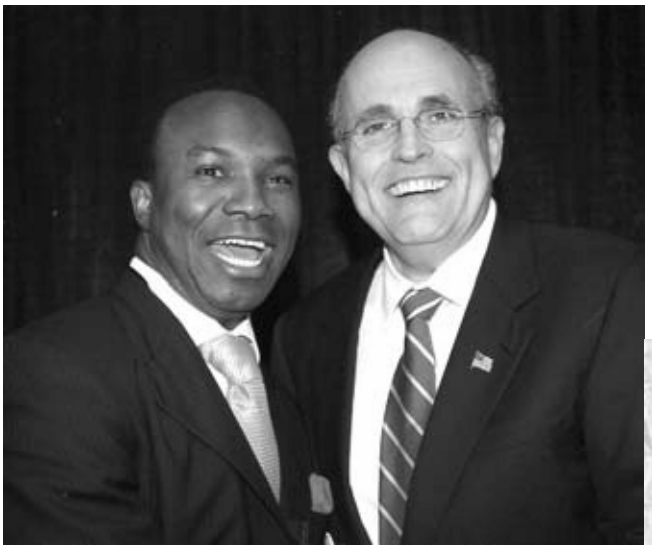
**Reinhard Bonnke John Maxwell**



**Chuck Norris**

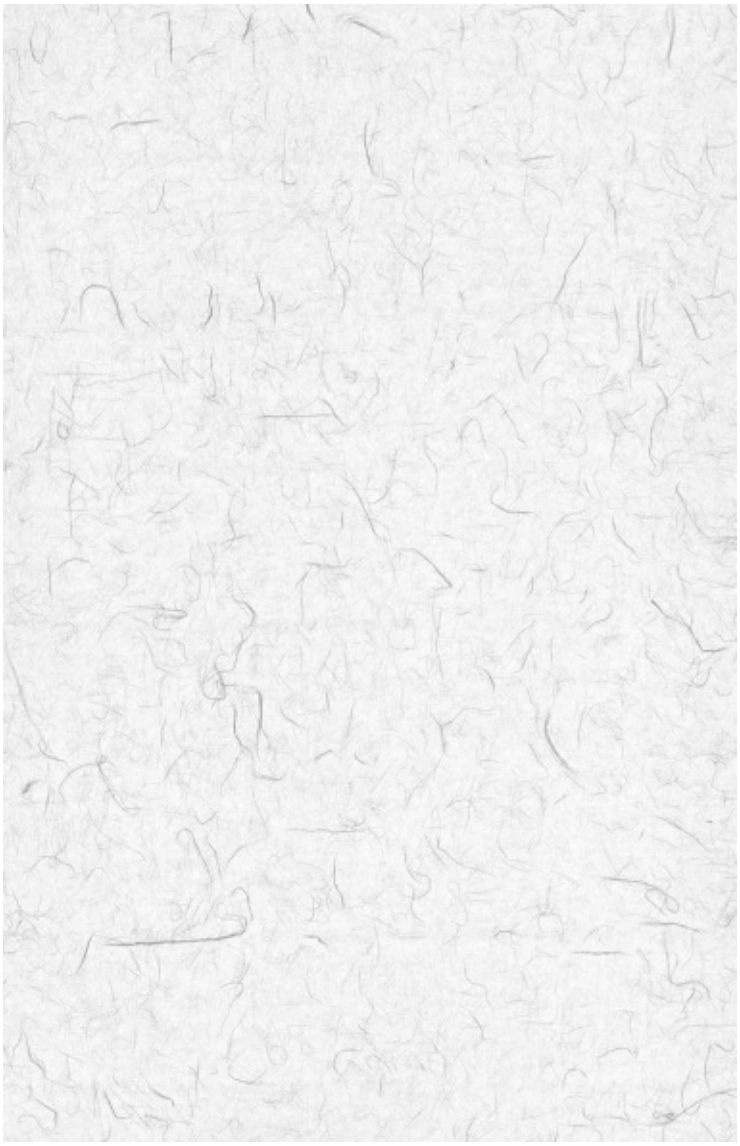


**Benjamin Natanyahu**

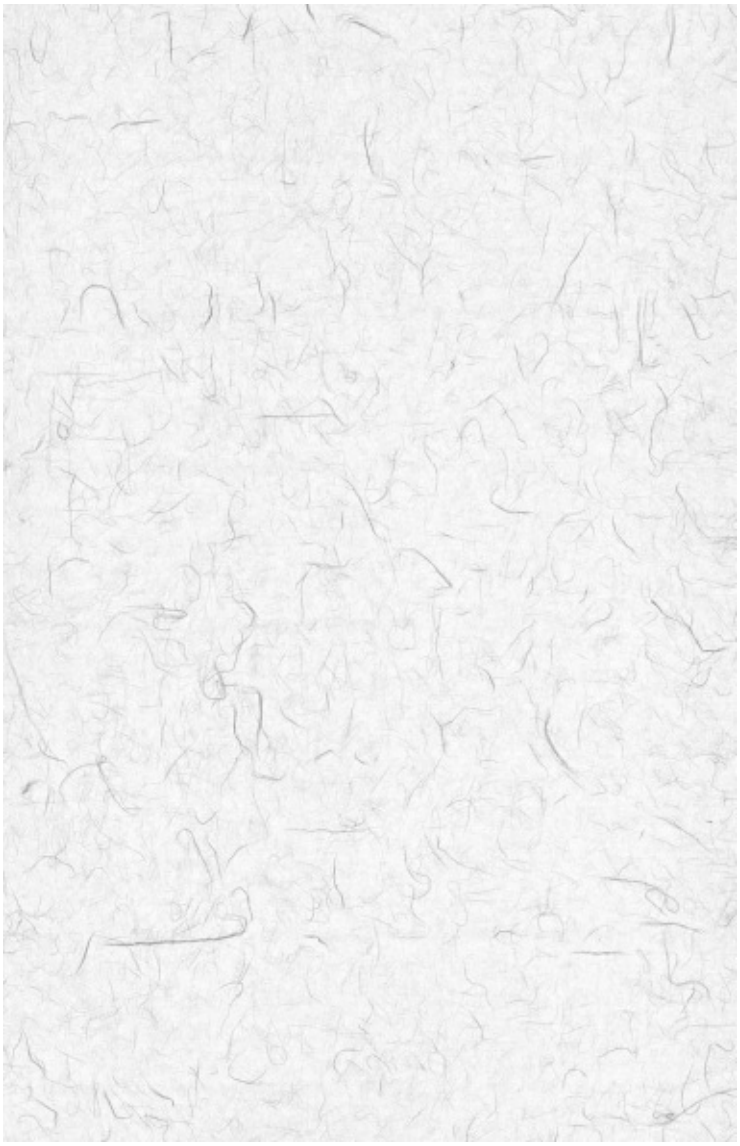


## Rudolph Giuliani

## Ariel Sharon



**Bernice King Mel Gibson Rufus Ajiboye**



**Peter Wagner**



**Lyndie McCauley**
**Francis Wale Oke**
**CHAPTER 3**

# Family

**...you are my destiny, you are my present and you are my future. You fulfill my hunger for love and my thirst for acceptance. — Sunday Adelaja**

FAMILY
B

esides his calling, Sunday often pondered who would become his life partner. In the books written about the life stories of people called to do great

things, he read how the wrong choice of one's life partner destroyed the divine calling of many. Therefore, he took this particular matter very seriously. That is why he did not want to have intimacy with any woman before marriage. He met many good girls in his life but waited patiently for the word of the Lord and finally received it.

Pastor Sunday is married to an amazing Christian woman from his home country of Nigeria. He calls her Bose, Princess. They have three wonderful children: a

son Perez, two daughters: Zoe and Pearl. Many people consider their family a worthy example because it is built on God's principles; the principles of love.

Pastor Sunday spends a considerable part of his time traveling, but his care for people closest to him and his fellowship with them always remain a priority for him. In the midst of this, he finds time for his family always. That is why he and Bose cooperate in all family matters. He is happily married and he joyfully shares his family-life's experience with other people.

His books, *"Successful Marriage Takes work"* and *"Heavenly Atmosphere in the Family"* have helped many people to know deeper the biblical principles of family life, primarily, the husband must be utterly committed to his family and must take responsibility for it. He must be willing to lay down his life for it, just as Jesus has laid down His life for the world. As for the wife, she must be a good home keeper, understanding that she and her husband are one, and that she is his helper, support and comfort. Of course, her ministry to her family does not have to limit her self-actualization. The wife as well as the husband must be useful to the society and o work for its good.

MEETING HIS FUTURE WIFE

Sunday looked for a wife in Russia and in Belarus. He wanted to marry a white girl because during his years in the USSR he got used to the Slavic and European girls' way of life. For nine years, he kept his flesh in check as he looked for the one true love. But his desire to have a Slavic wife remained unfulfilled.

Sunday, first, noticed this black beauty at a Christian conference in Russia. "She simply amazed me with her beauty, especially her inner one, "I saw in her, an essence of holiness," the pastor recalls. "As I looked at her, I saw her decency and purity radiating." But the girl did not pay attention to Sunday then, and when they first met he was too shy to go up to her and start a conversation. On their next meeting, however, he showed determination and asked Bose for her phone number.

After the conference they began communicating by phone because they lived in different cities. She lived in Vladimir, Russia, while he has already moved to Kyiv, Ukraine. Sunday was not in a hurry to speed things up. He still had hopes of marrying an Ukrainian and prayed for a certain Ukrainian girl that he liked.

At this point, every time he prayed he saw an image of Bose in his mind. Then, he decided that this might be a sign from God. Soon, he had a wonderful opportunity to get to know this Bose better. As God would have it, their friend invited them both to his wedding in Moscow. Sunday asked Bose to come a day earlier in order to have more time for fellowship. She was not sure of the need for such date because she had never dated before, and as a result, a part of her did not want to go and was even ready to miss her friend's wedding in order to protect herself and her inner values. But her inner self felt that she had to go. In fact, she knew that he will propose to her there and that she should accept his proposal.

Sunday and Bose's meeting did not go without any complications. They agreed to meet near a metro station but did not specify the entrance, "I was standing near one metro entrance, and He was waiting near another," Bose recalls. "I kept waiting but he didn't show up. You know, I even rejoiced as I thought that I might have made a mistake and God was putting everything in proper order. After all, I came to the Soviet Union to study and not to look for a husband."

While Bose was thanking God for the date that did not happen, Sunday was growing more and more nervous. The time passed but the girl was not coming. Then, he decided to look around the metro. Suddenly, he saw her in the crowd. He was so glad that he came running to her and told her that he loved her. Totally unexpected for Sunday, "I knelt before Bose, told her about all my life and that I was willing to wait for a year, three years, five years or however long it would take until she would be sure that I am to become her husband," the pastor recalls.

Bose pondered his words for a long time. She didn't say yes at the time, and she couldn't say no either. As a matter of fact, she still has not said yes, although they already have three children now.

THE BIG DECISION

At that time, Bose had several reasons not to marry Sunday.

1. She hardly knew anything about the Sunday.
2. She promised her parents that she would not marry before graduation.
3. Her relatives wanted to know, as much as possible, about their potential son-in-law and they were not pleased with the information they gathered in Nigeria.

"I remember my Dad's reaction to this situation," Bose recalls. "He said, "We've

sent you to study and not to get married!" I was only 20 then. Today, being a mother of three, I now understand my parents very well."

Later, she got her parents' consent and the wedding took place.

A PASTOR FOR A HUSBAND?
SPARE ME PLEASE!

Bose honestly admits that she was not excited about the fact that her future husband is a pastor. She dreamed of becoming a wife of a businessman, but not a pastor.

"Going back to those times, I had mixed feelings," Bose says. "On one hand, I felt happy and realized that creating a family means going forward. On the other hand, I felt insecure and uncertain. I believed that pastors are poor people in all senses of the word, that they have no perspective in life…, after all, they are often constrained in their mind! I thought that their life completely depends on other people's opinion, and their offerings. I thought that they had to do enormous amount of work that would be pleasing to people, providing answers and solutions to their needs."

All this did not fit Bose's idea of a happy marriage. Some time passed before she accepted her husband's call, and soon she became a pastor herself.

Now, there is agreement and harmony in Adelaja's family. Sunday takes care of his wife as though she is a princess. Actually, that's what he calls her since the day they first met.

Here's what he has to say about it: "For any single man, his future wife is a princess indeed, but as soon as he wins her heart and eventually marries her, she becomes common to him just like anybody else." Noting this fact, Sunday decided that Bose will remain a princess to him for life, just as she was a princess for him before they married. Here is a letter written to his precious and beloved wife.

To: *My precious and loving wife, Bose, my princess. Princess, I just want to say thank you to you as one of the biggest influences in my life as I celebrate my fortieth birthday.*
*It is unbelievable, isn't it? When we met, I was 27, so now we have been living together for 13 years and it is simply unbelievable how time can go so fast. To me, it is like we've just started our relationship and our romance. It is like one*

*year.*
*Though, I was grown up before I met you, I find that you are my destiny, you are my present and you are my future. I have never been the same since the time we met. You fulfill my hunger for love and my thirst for acceptance. I have looked for so long and everywhere for a suitable wife and I could not find any until I found you. You are the one that God prepared for me, even before I knew who I was, I guess before the foundation of the earth.*
*I began to pray for my wife when I was 19 years old. At that time, you were only 13 and, maybe, you were not even thinking about marriage yet but that was the time I began to pray. I am sure that, even, then God knew you were the one who was going to become that person though when I was looking around me, at that point in time, I had no idea that the wife I was praying for was back in Africa and it took another 7 years before I could get to know you.*
*I wanted to thank you for being my second and better half. Thank you for accepting me the way I am. Thank you for coping with me; it is not easy to cope with a man like me. Thank you for enduring me, thank you for having patience with me. Thank you for understanding me, praying for me and for supporting me. Thank you for teaching me, thank you for advising me, thank you for correcting me. Thank you for being the mother of my children. Thank you for your gift of love. Thank you for being my friend. Thank you for being my partner. Thank you for being my colleague. Thank you for being there for me all the time. Thank you for supporting me, thank you for being my lover. Thank you for being a little mother to me when necessary. Thank you for fighting for me, thank you for covering my back. Thank you for ministering to me when in the secret place, and when no other person is around. Thank you for filling the void in my life and thank you for your readiness to be there for me all the time. I love you princess and I will always love you. You are the only one and you will remain the only one in my life. For the rest of our life, it is going to be honeymoon! Thank you princess, you are not just part of what I am, you are who I am to a large extent. And everything that I have today is our achievement, it is not just your contribution, it is God and you and a little bit of my effort that has made me to be whom I am.*
*Thank you so much Princess.*
*I love you again and again.*
*Your love and husband, Sunday"*

Pastor Natalia Potopayeva , one of the first disciples of Pastor Sunday, who later became his right-hand woman and helped to organize his wedding with Bose, witnessed how they learnt to live as a family initially and what has now become

a worthy model for hundreds and thousands of couples.

*“You know, when Pastor Sunday says that he is just an ordinary man, it is true,” Pastor Natasha says. “He, really, is a person just like everybody else. When he got married, he made mistakes just like all of us do. Of course, he read a lot of books on marriage and showed interest in everything that had to do with marriage relationships, but he and Bose were so young that theory alone was not enough to smooth over the rough edges.*

*For instance, before he got married, the pastor was used to having his home open to everyone. He could never turn anybody away. “Well, I can’t let these people stay in the streets,” he’d say when I’d become angry sometimes, seeing how some people were abusing the pastor’s hospitality. But, when he got married, this had to stop. I realized that a young woman wouldn’t feel comfortable having some strange men in another room. Well, I saw this but her new husband, Pastor Sunday didn’t. I saw how Bose was suffering in silence in this situation but she wouldn’t say a word to Sunday. And I felt the same motherly love towards her as I felt towards Sunday. I’ll never forget how she first came to Kyiv: it was freezing cold outside, and she was wearing a light cotton dress…, finally, I explained to the pastor that since he already has a family, he cannot turn his home into a hangout. Praise God, he listened to my advice.*

*In fact, the Adelaja family was formed right before my eyes. I saw him turning from a boy into a man. I saw how he tried to be a good husband, so that his wife would never cry or suffer. For example, if he saw that Bose wasn’t pleased with something, he would kneel before her and say, “I will not leave until I see you happy…””*

Here’s what Bose Adelaja has to say about her family:

*“Our family is not typical, and this is due, mostly, to Pastor Sunday. An average, calm and balanced level of family life was always enough for me. I didn’t dream about something too big or extraordinary. Nevertheless, when I met Sunday and later, when we began to live together, I realized that I am not only living with an extraordinary man but an unusual person as well and this has influenced our family life as well. Our family is truly an unusual one. We value each other and our relationships very much. We know why we live together. That’s why we act in a very considerate way, the way responsible adults should.*

*In the church, Pastor Sunday is the leader, and in the family he relaxes and creates favorable conditions for our comfort. Due to his calling and his constant involvement in ministry I bear the major part of the family responsibilities. I make most of the decisions in the family, excluding the strategic ones. Although, whenever I am not home, he usually attempt to fix dinner.*

*His favorite dish is omelet with all variety of fillings. In general, Sunday enjoys anything delicious. "Cook what you want as you want, but it has to be delicious" this is his motto. I have to admit, though that he doesn't like hot and spicy food.*

*We celebrate our family holidays either at home or while traveling. In our spare time, we do different things because we have different hobbies. For example, I go to theaters alone most of the time. But I do it when it doesn't disturb my family. When we can spend some time together at home (which seldom happens), we enjoy this time of fellowship, watch TV or plan our family activities. Since our family life is connected with the life of the church, we plan our time and activities in such a way that our family traditions would fit together with the traditions of our church. However little the time we have for the family, we always try to make it quality time. Our family always remains first for us."*

Bose supports her husband in everything, and he strives to be an ideal husband to her. For example, he gives all his salary to his wife. "I can't buy even a candy without Bose, and by doing this I keep proving to her that she is the most important person in my life," the pastor explains. "This is exactly what every woman dreams about. In this way, she can be sure that I will not 'party' because I don't have any money."

According to Sunday, after they got married he never gave his wife any reason for jealousy. Bose confirms his words. She says, however, that we are still human and nobody is immune to making mistakes. So, she carefully examines her heart and often ponders if she would be able to forgive any possible unfaithfulness from his side. "I often ponder on this question," she says, "and can therefore, say God forbid, if any unfaithfulness would occur, I would be able to forgive him. But at the same time, frankly speaking, I am not sure that our family would remain the same."

Bose is interested in Sunday as a person. He is a multifaceted personality, he is well-educated, and he is never boring. Because of his faith, he always uses the energy that is bubbling in him in positive ways. He is very tender as a husband.

He is easy to live with, and Bose believes that his main character trait is his ability to build relationships.

As Sunday turns 40, Bose's heart is full of gratitude. Here's what she writes in her letter to her beloved husband:

*"I've been more than blessed to be closely connected with you Sunday, for 14 years. These years have been wonderful years of growth, progress, and even for entering my own promised land.*

*I congratulate you, my pastor, friend, brother and, of course, handsome spouse, on your 40th birthday. I thank God for making us victorious and giving us the privilege of celebrating the birthday of a man He is using in our generation, against all odds.*

*My dear husband, we have passed through different things together but I will always celebrate your life, for the freedom you gave me to be myself, and for using your manhood and your position as my husband to woo me closer to God, until I was so deeply in love with Him. Thank you for bringing an improved, fresh, practical and genuine understanding of God to me.*

*Living with Pastor Sunday, and seeing him both privately and publicly have left such an impregnable impression in my life. His legacy is worthy of emulation for all who will read these lines. I have seen how God has raised him from one level to another. His sense of purpose is contagious, even to people that are far from him. Pastor Sunday's life is a living testimony for our time and generation. All his material: audio, video and books are a must for those who seek God.*

*The God of Pastor Sunday is alive to enrich you and make you become a God-carrier for your generation. God is able to do even greater things than He's doing through Pastor Sunday through you. Just be willing and obedient. Be completely sold out to Him. Be true and faithful. Be sincere with God and get a real understanding of Him.*

*While congratulating Pastor Sunday, my husband, I would like to challenge all other husbands to be the best for their wives. One of Pastor Sunday's passions is raising up godly men. The greatest birthday present those men can give Pastor Sunday would be to fall deeply in love with God and let it show. Let Pastor Sunday's legacy challenge all of you to be the best for your wife, your family and everyone around you.*

*Happy Birthday Pastor Sunday; Happy Birthday to those who have been reborn through your prayers, contact and ministry, and Happy Birthday to those who are yet come into God's Kingdom through your influence, work, and spiritual children.*

*I want to thank all those who believe in and recognize the hand of God on Pastor Sunday. I even want to thank his critics. Together we make his life what it is today.*

*I would like to conclude with the words of Proverbs 25:13. My prayer is that we will all become faithful ambassadors of God, who refresh the soul of our Master. I pray that we will all be men after God's heart, just like Pastor Sunday.*

*We are God's beloved children, in whom His favor rests. We are blessed to be able to inherit all that the Lord has prepared for us, even from the beginning of the world.*

*Happy Birthday, Pastor Sunday, from the bone of your bones and the flesh of your flesh. I love you Sweetheart.*
*You can count on my love and faithfulness!*
*Many happy returns of a blessed life!"*

THEIR FIRST CHILD — PEREZ

Consumed with happiness, Bose and Sunday were not in a hurry to have children right after wedding. They wanted to enjoy each other as long as possible, but the thought of conception and birth of a new life brought them joy. "We always knew that one day we will have a child," Bose says, "but when it finally happened, it was just like a miracle for us. Yes, it was really a miracle because doctors diagnosed me with infertility." She was happy that God had given her an ability to become a mother, and her son's birth only augmented that joy. This long-awaited child became a breakthrough in Bose and Sunday's family life. That's why they called the baby Perez, which means "breakthrough" in Hebrew.

ZOE

Two years after their son was born, Bose gave birth to their daughter. It was a hard decision for her. But when Perez was a little over one year old, his parents noticed that he was bored. Mom and Dad cared about their baby but they could not give him everything he needed at this point of his life. Then, they realized

that a second child is really a must. The children should fellowship with each other, grow together, play, learn and help one another…

They named her Zoe and when Daddy saw this little girl and heard her tender voice, his heart melted. This incredibly tender and vulnerable look in his baby's eyes touched him forever. As Bose says, "the birth of their daughter brought more tenderness and softness into their family and changed Sunday's attitude towards women in general."

PEARL

While waiting for the birth of their third child, the parents had some serious reasons to worry. At first, everything went well. For the first seven months of her pregnancy, Bose stayed in Kyiv going through all necessary checkups and there were no signs of danger. Finally, the parents decided that the baby would be born in the United States.

In the first days of Bose's stay in the U.S, the doctors found a growth on the baby's head during an ultrasound. It was a hard blow for the young woman. It all seemed like a dream to her. She had a hard time believing that it was happening in real life. She knew that some children are born with defects but she never thought that such misfortune might befall her own child. The doctors' prognoses were frightening: they gave no guarantees as to the baby having a normal life.

Bose called her husband who was in Ukraine at the time and told him everything. Of course, he did everything he could, considering the circumstances. He supported her and tried to calm her, saying that everything will be great, and soon flew to the States himself to be with Bose. They prayed together, hoping for a miracle from God. The doctors had to induce the labor because the baby was going over the term, and Bose gave birth to a big, pretty and joyful girl. The parents' joy was not complete, however, until the doctors examined the baby and pronounced her healthy. It is very hard to express all the feelings and emotions that Sunday and Bose experienced then. This was a sign of God's mercy toward their family.

Their troubles were not over yet. In a short time, Bose noticed two growths on the baby's head. They began visiting doctors again and concerned for their baby. The second phase of fighting for the girl's life begun, and Sunday was again with his Princess.

The desperation and the climax of a mother's worries brought Bose closer to understanding God. During this difficult time, she reexamined her life, repented of her sins, cleansed her soul and promised God that if He would heal her baby she would serve Him. In the year of Pearl's birth, Bose surrendered completely to God.

After many exams and doctor's observations Bose's and Sunday's second daughter was diagnosed as a 100% healthy child.

God had mercy on Bose and her baby by fulfilling His part of the covenant, and she in turn began to serve Him as a pastor.

## A WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

Pastor Sunday strongly believes that all his children will preach the Word of God, but each one will do it differently. Even before they were born, God had shown him some of their callings. Perez will most likely become a preacher. Zoe might be preaching as well, but she will major in singing. And Pearl's becoming a lawyer will not hinder her from serving God.

## THE FATHER

Sunday has won not only the heart of his wife but the hearts of his children as well. They simply love him. He gives them what Mom cannot. They see power and authority in him. But, most of all, they like to play, to wrestle and even to fight with him. They enjoy it a lot. "I love my Dad because he always takes me with him when he goes somewhere," Perez says. "I love to play and wrestle with him. He is a great Dad! "I am thankful that you are my father and that you taught me many things I know. Thank you for teaching me. I hope I will be like you! Hope you have a great birthday party!"

"Thank you, Daddy, for being my best friend," Zoe adds. "We are so happy with you! We love you, pastor! You are nice! You are great! You are so fun to play with. I hope we will have fun at your birthday. Thank you for teaching us in the church! I love you, because you are strong. I love you because you are the pastor of the church.

I am so glad that you are strong. I am so glad that you pray to God really good. That's excellent! I am so glad that you understand Russian and English. You are a hero. I am so glad that you are an African.

I am proud of you!”
The little Pearl joins her older brother and sister, saying: “I love you, Daddy! Happy birthday!”
When Dad is not home his children often miss him…
DADDY’SBIRTHDAY

Birthdays are exceptionally important holidays in Adelaja’s family. “We always celebrate these days,” Bose says. “We invite guests and make the person celebrating the most important. We take this as an opportunity for our family to set this person apart and to tell him or her, how much they mean for us. That’s why birthdays are family holidays for us.”

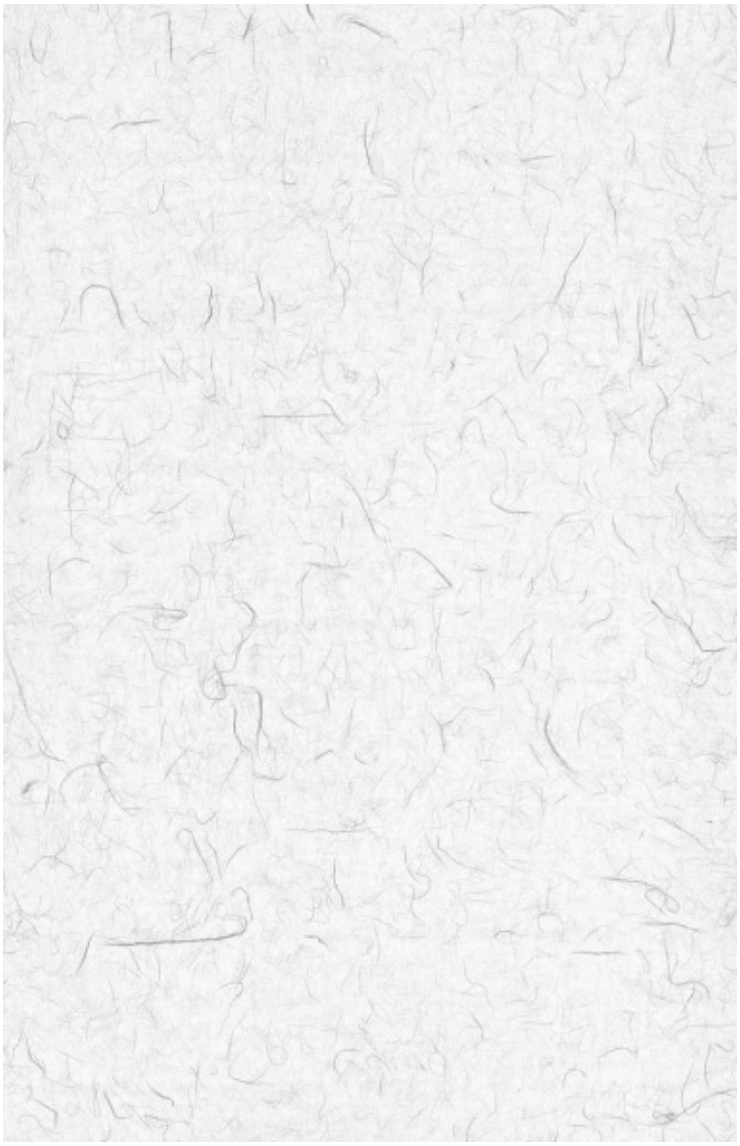
Soon Pastor Sunday will celebrate his 40th birthday. His children are preparing gifts for their father. Of course, it will be words of love, dances, songs and many other things that children can give to the father they all adore. And he in turn writes them a letter full of the love of a loving father:

To: *Perez, Zoe and Pearl*
*My dear and loving children, you are a blessing in my life beyond what I deserve to have and what you could dare to think. You may not realize it much at this moment, but the sacrifice in allowing Daddy go and releasing him to be who he is, to be a Pastor and an Apostle unto the nations, is what has allowed me to build this ministry that I now have and to be who I am today.*
*Perez, Zoe, Pearl, thank you for supporting Daddy. Thank you for praying for Daddy. Thank you for understanding Daddy when I need to go. Thank you for not crying. Thank you for not keeping me at home when I would have needed to obey God. Thank you for being satisfied with just the little hours and few minutes that I spent with you when I am back from my numerous trips. Thank you for not being stubborn and difficult to me and to your Mom. Thank you for supporting your Mom. Thank you for being obedient children. Thank you for studying well. Thank you for listening to me. Thank you for just releasing me to the destiny and the future that God has got for me and for you and for all the people of the world. And thank you for being good children. I love you Perez, I love you Zoe, I love you Pearl. Perez, you are who I call Sunday Junior. Zoe you are my little princess. Pearl you are my sweetheart. God bless you kids. I love you.*
*Happy birthday to all our family!*
*Your Papa!”*

## Princess Head of the family

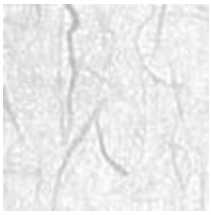


## Happy wedding

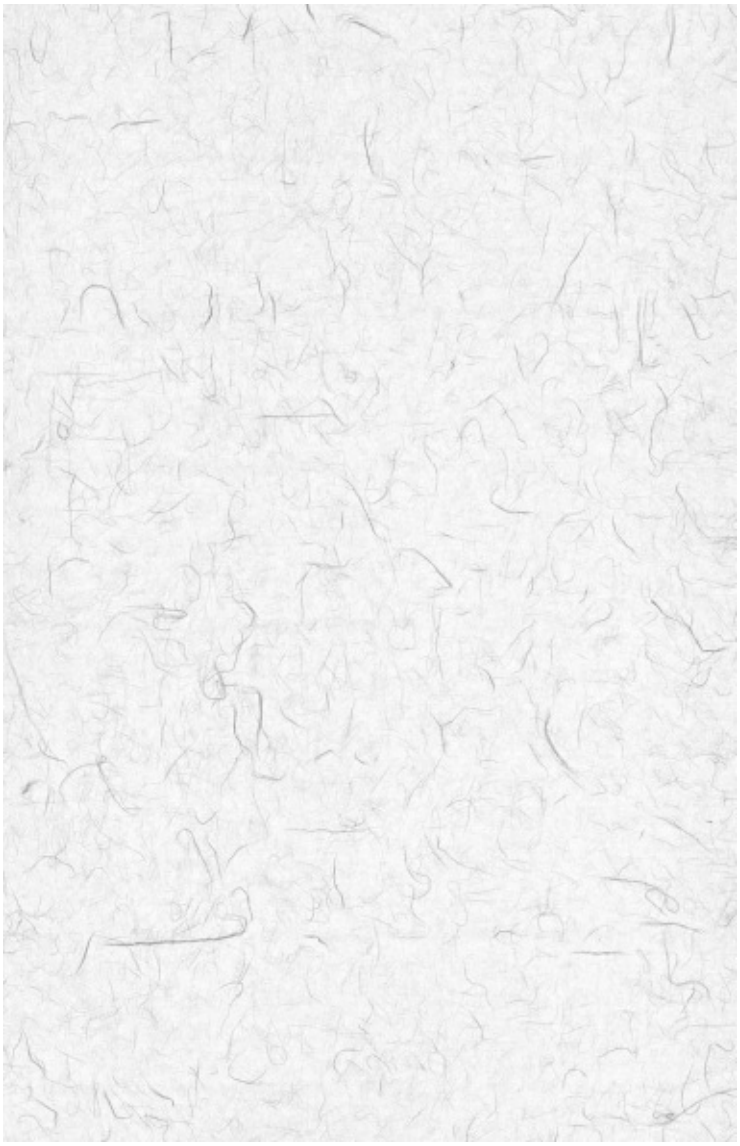




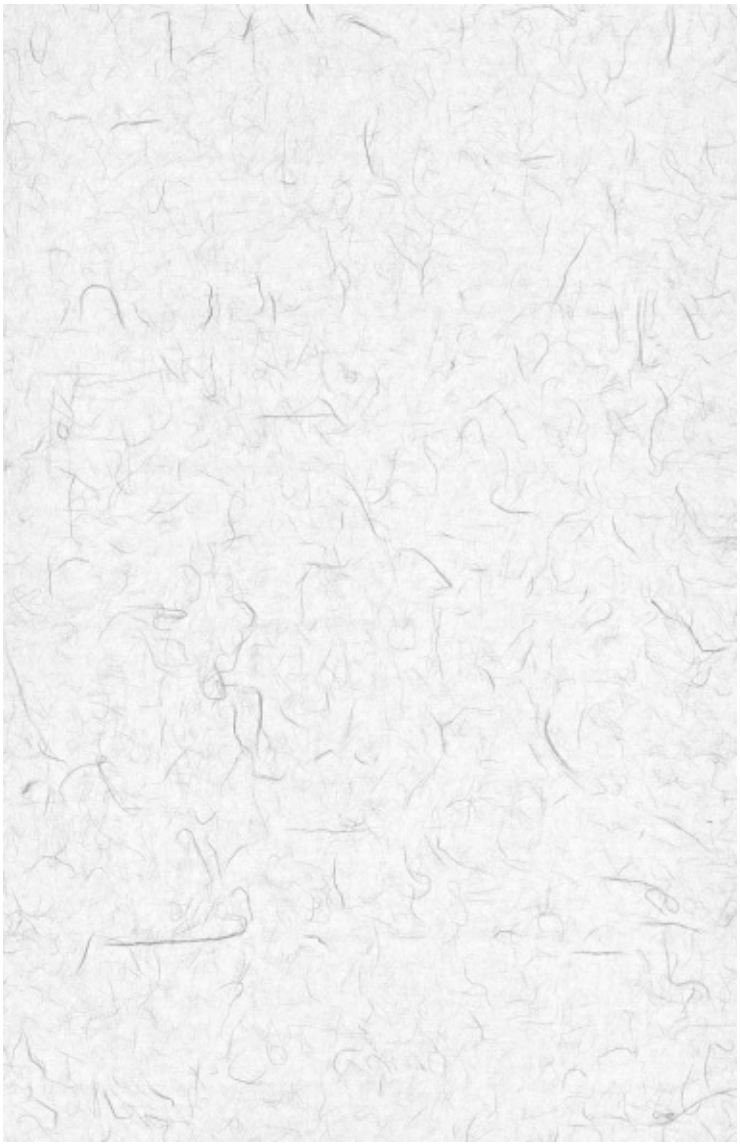
## Together forever



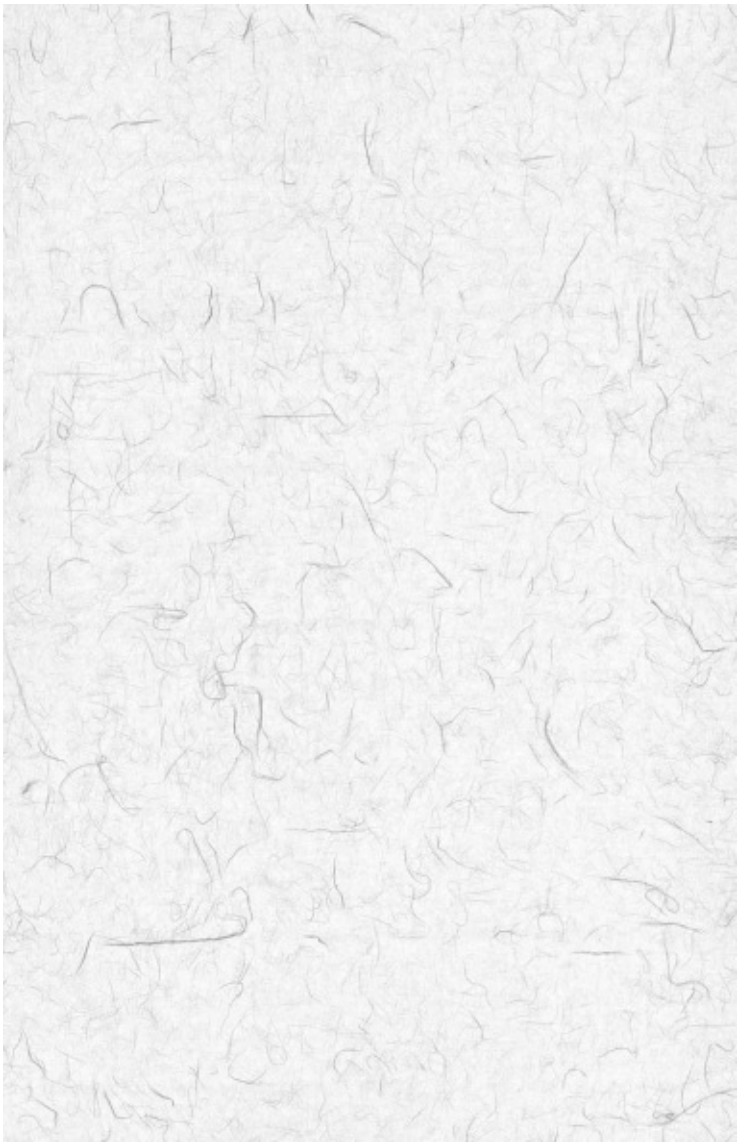
## In God ’s presence Resting

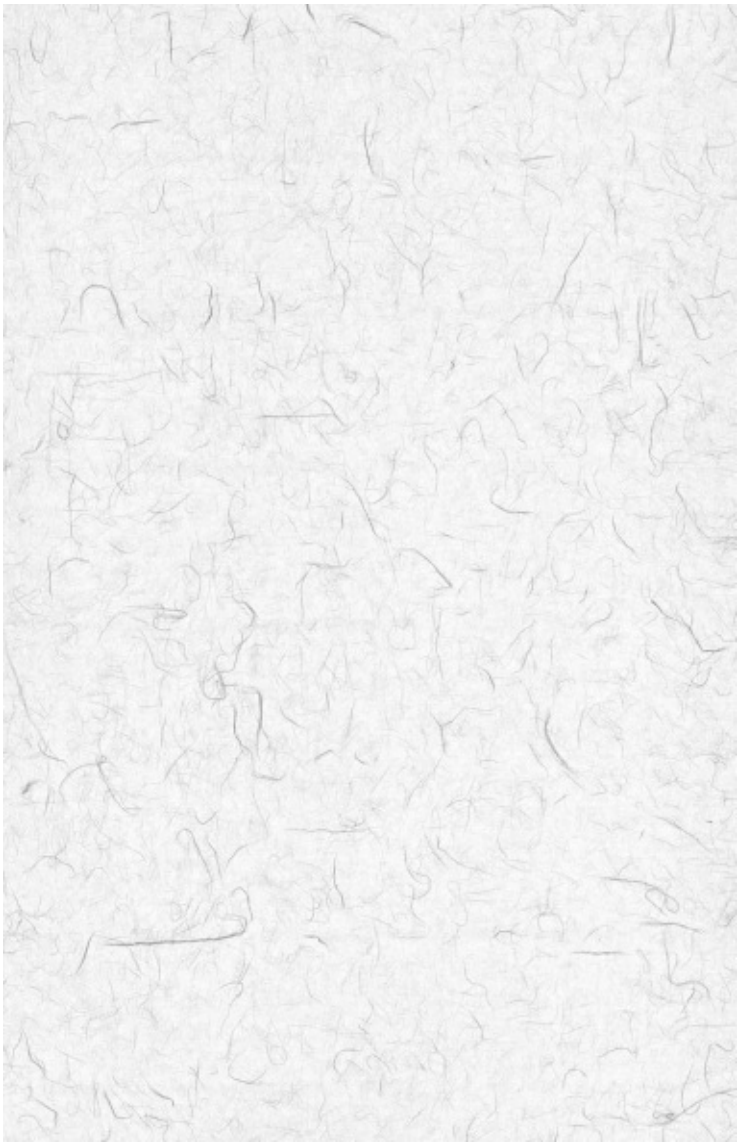


**And two will be one flesh**



**Happy family**



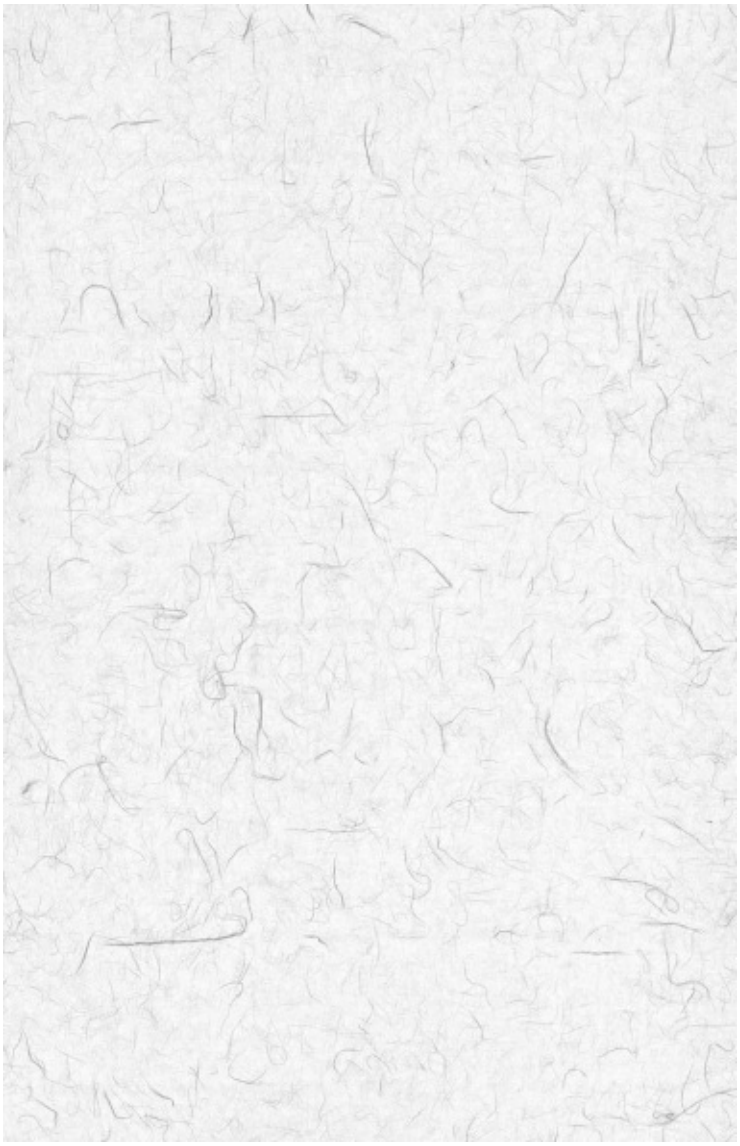


**Happy family**





**Young mother**



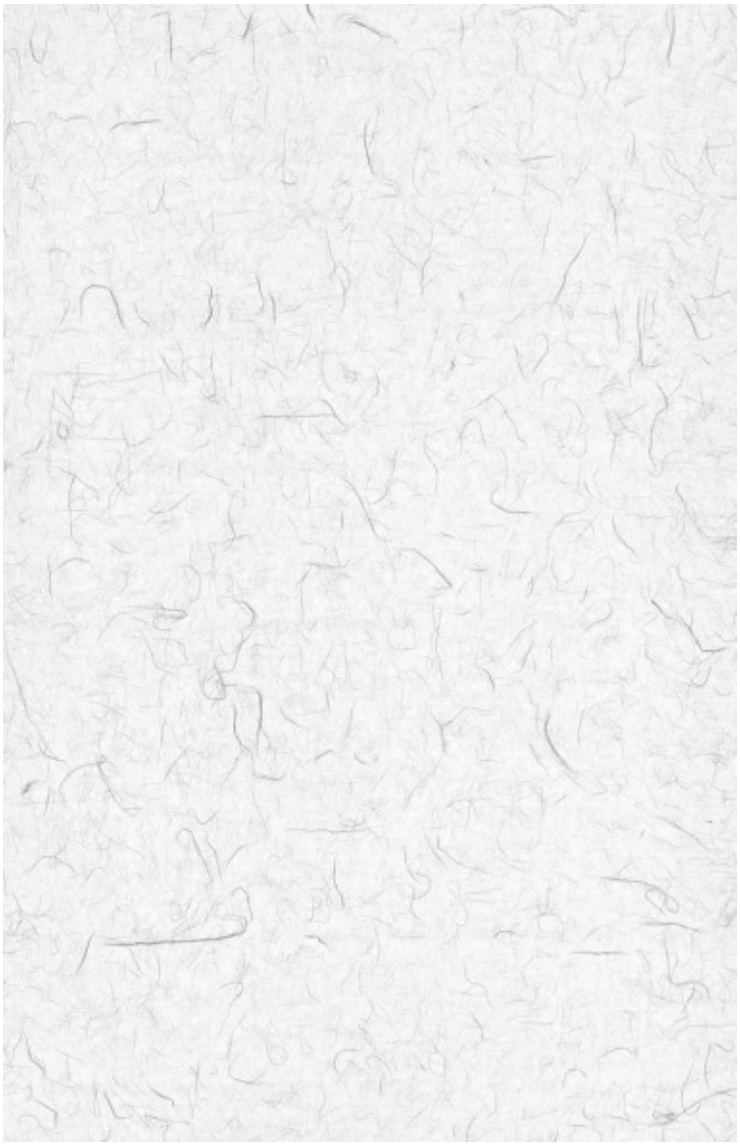
**Pherez and Zoe**



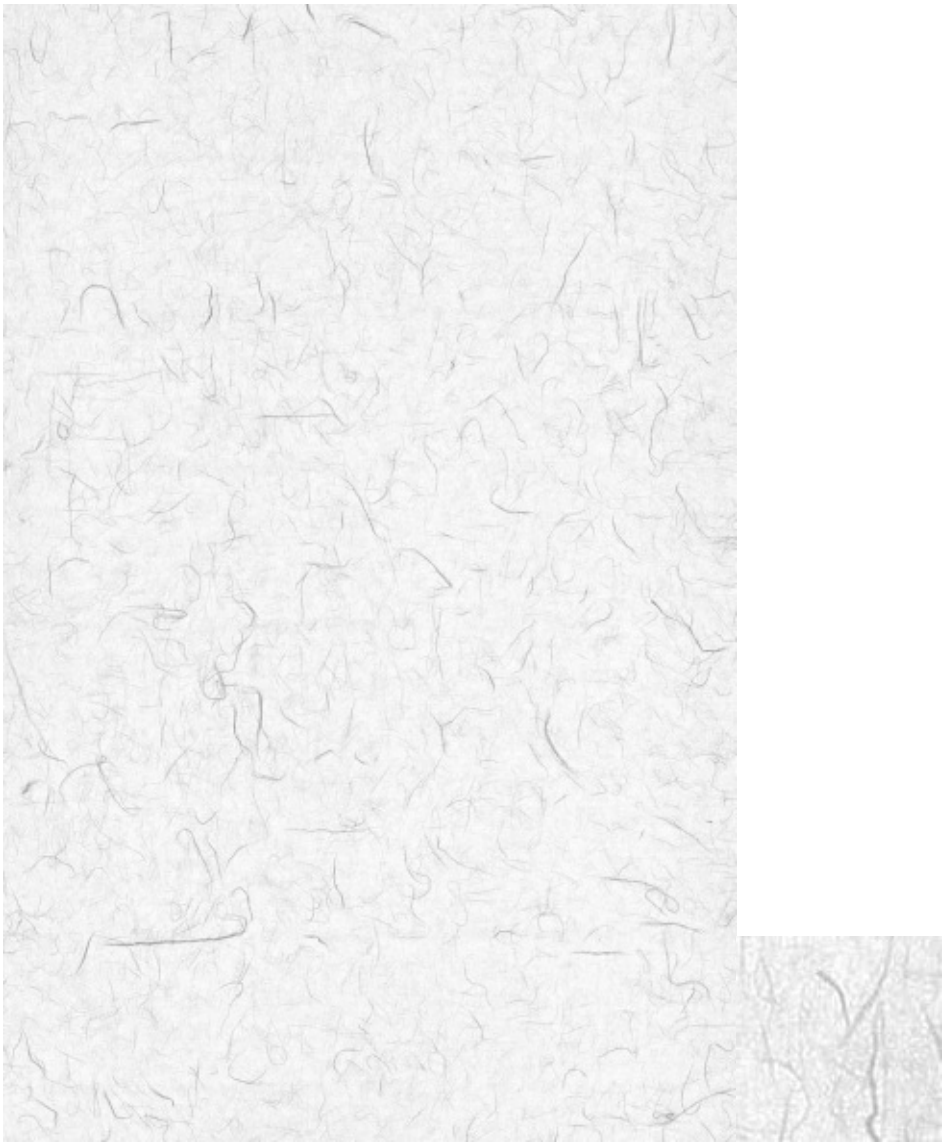
# Zoe and Pearl



**Children are a heritage from the Lord**



**Sunday and Bose with children, Zoe, Pearl and Perez. Family Portrait**

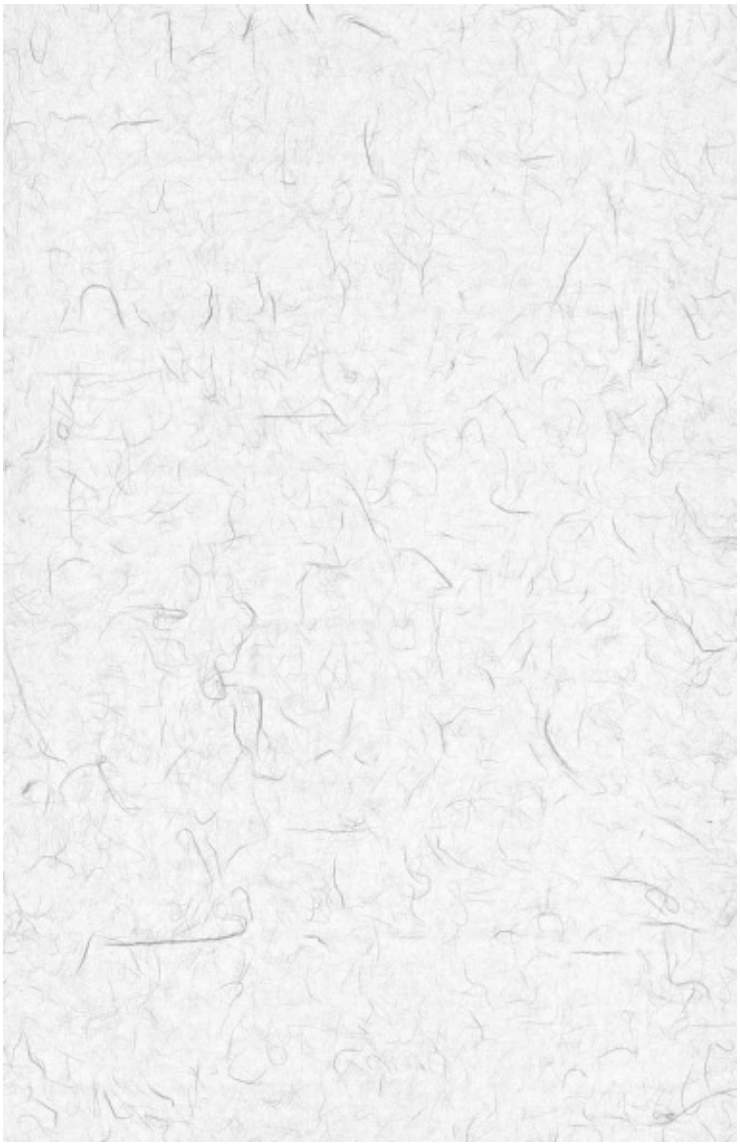








**Pastor Sunday Adelaja's books on family subjects help thousands of people to find happiness in personal and family life**



**CHAPTER 4**

# God has

**come to Ukraine**
**God, I pray for Ukraine, God, I pray for the people, Forgive them, save them And show us your mercy…**

GOD HAS COME TO UKRAINE

“L

et’s leave this country”, Bose said to Sunday. Sometime ago, someone had given them a funeral wreath and a threatening letter after the church

service. The letter said that unless Sunday, a black guy, stops preaching and leaves Ukraine, the wreath would be laid on his grave.

In response to Bose’s request, Sunday took his wife by the hands, looked straight into her eyes, and said, “You know, Princess, as soon as God tells me to do this we will be out of this country the very next day. But so far, I have to be where the Lord tells me to be.”

To Bose’s credit, the will of God was more important to her than her personal priorities. Having overcome her fear, she made a decision to endure all trials alongside her husband.

“You know, if it was up to me to choose a country for the headquarters of my ministry to the Lord, I would never have chosen Ukraine.” Pastor Sunday confesses. “I am here because God has sent me here. Every time I return to Ukraine from abroad, I die a thousand deaths. And these are not just words. Ukraine is the only place in the world where I am called names, threatened and persecuted in various ways. I have visited over 40 countries of the world and people never treat me like this in any of them.”

Pastor Sunday has more reasons for saying this. When the Embassy of God church began to grow, the press began to publish articles accusing him of all kinds of sins — they started from his perceived link with the “White Brotherhood” sect to drug dealing.

He was under the close watch of the State Security Service, threatened by the mafia, the press, and engaged in 22 lawsuits… all these things could break anybody. But Pastor Sunday knew that his ministry in Ukraine is God’s plan for him and, therefore, endured all hardships courageously.

“If it was mine to choose,” the Pastor continues, “I would have chosen some protestant country where people honor preachers, not insulting them and accuse them of all kinds of sins day in and day out. I came to Ukraine in obedience to

God and it is an act of humility for me."

Now, I would like to use this opportunity to thank all the people who have been my critics and opponents; all the people who have been writing and criticizing me in all negative and controversial articles in newspapers and on websites in Ukraine and outside of Ukraine.

You are not my enemies, you are my propellers. You have encouraged me to move forward. You have encouraged me to search into my self and to become a better person. If there were no people like you, I do not think I would have discovered all the abilities and the potentials in me. So, I thank you for the role you have played in me becoming who I have become today. God bless you!"

"For it will certainly come, it will not delay"

God is true to His word. One day, He showed one young man the vision of his future and now He fulfills it consistently. Ukraine and Kiev truly became the headquarters of God's movement.

*God, I pray for Ukraine,*
*God, I pray for the people,*
*Forgive them, save them*
*And show us Your mercy…*

The words of this song were heard over main town square during the Orange Revolution. During the cold days of November 2004, our country caught the whole world's attention. Just a month before, the name "Ukraine" was unfamiliar to many. It unexpectedly became the heart of Europe and its gray color on the world map turned bright orange. An unprecedented awareness of civil activity in the country long considered as a passive nation led to a change in its political situation.

Falsification of the presidential election results led to the protest of the majority of citizens and a strong public movement started called, "Orange Revolution." People from several regions of the country left their homes to go to Kyiv, Ukraine's capital, to voice their objection against the corruption in the government and, by doing so, they acquired their civil rights. Just like rivers carry water to the sea, people gathered on the Independence Square at the center of Kiev, Maidan, where the Orange Revolution took place.

AN INVISIBLE SIDE
OF THE ORANGE REVOLUTION

Now some of the readers might wonder how Pastor Sunday is connected to these events. In fact, he is very closely linked.

God has His own plan of restoring Ukraine, and He has put this dream into the heart of Sunday Adelaja, who was obedient to Him and thus became the Moses of our times as well as prepared thousands of ministers, loyal and obedient to God's will, who always upheld his hands.

*"I know that he is a history maker,"* Pastor Galina Korobka says. She is a native Ukrainian who was helped by God and Pastor Sunday to break the hold of alcohol addiction in her life. After so many years, she was no longer an alcohol addict and now she stands in the gap for her motherland, Ukraine. *"This is the chosen vessel of God; he has been planted in Ukraine to help turn around the lives of the people, the Country and the history of the Ukrainian people. He is a person of destiny through who God is saving not only some individuals but a whole nation,"* she concluded on Pastor Sunday.
Pastor Christer Segerliv shares his observations:

*"I have seen how Pastor Sunday's two focal messages,* "Seeking God and being totally devoted to Him" *and,* "Taking part in transforming the society by establishing the Kingdom of God in every sphere of life" *have changed the destiny of the Ukrainian nation. A country that was so oppressed by communism and poverty and corruption is now experiencing freedom. Also, the way that Pastor Sunday encourages the body of Christ globally, to build the Kingdom of God in every area, is just tremendous. If every church in the world have done the same, we would have had a changed world. I strongly recommend that all world pastors and leaders come to Ukraine and see what an orderly, happy, healthy and strong church can do in any society today."*

For the last 11 years, since its inception, the Embassy of God church constantly prayed to God, asking for His mercy and grace for the people of Ukraine. *"The church has isolated itself from the world which it was supposed to influence and to save. If we, as a church, are inactive, our descendants will never forgive us for this."*

Pastor Sunday is quoted in the article titled, "The Church in Europe Unites Faith

and Politics", which was published in "Charisma" magazine. *"I feel that this is a direct responsibility of the church to do everything, to have good government and rulers. We must raise godly leaders within the church."*

Taking all the responsibility for the country upon himself, the Senior Pastor, Sunday Adelaja, and the members of the church were accomplishing God's strategy for the spiritual deliverance of Ukraine, it's virtually impossible not to notice the hand of God in Ukraine today. Believers are on their knees around the clock, praying for God's intervention in the life of the nation. Every night, a special prayer group fights the good fight of faith for the presence of God to come upon every sphere of Ukrainian society. Every month, the church members leave the city for three-day fasting retreats. And since 1998, the Embassy of God has been holding Pastors' fasting retreats, where ministers from all over the world come twice a year to fast and pray for 10 days (10—15 hours a day). Thousands of believers are praying for changes in Ukraine.

From December 6th—17th, 2004, the Embassy of God held a Pastors' fasting retreat for the fulfillment of God's will during the presidential elections. The people of God declared an end to all the spiritual problems in the country and proclaimed the victory of God's goodness and justice.

The Embassy of God church awakened the civil activity of those who were afraid of the government for many years. The actions taken by Christians became the signs of the increasing national self-consciousness and civil selfesteem of the nation. Since 2001, tens of thousands of church members have gone out into the main street of Kyiv — Kreshatik — to march annually. These marches would end with a prayer for the revival of the Ukrainian nation.

The spiritual activity of the Embassy of God members and their active civil position prepared the way for the victory of the "Orange Revolution" at the end of 2004.

## THE NIGERIAN BORN UKRAINIAN PATRIOT

One day, while sharing his thoughts with some of the church leaders, Pastor Sunday said: "I used to ask myself often why God has chosen me, who 'has come down from a palm tree', as people in Ukraine like to say about blacks, for such an important mission, and I still cannot find an answer. But when I began

traveling around the world, I realized that the majority of people in the world, as well as in Ukraine, simply do not care about the things that happen around them. Everybody is focused only on himself and herself, and God simply has to take somebody like me to use for His grand plans."

Sunday witnessed the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991. The nation of Ukraine changed rapidly and it seemed, at that time and season, the true Ukrainian patriots had to stand up and build their country. The Ukrainian internet paper "Tribuna" published an article titled, "Ten Phrases That Changed Ukraine":

*"Some of the following phrases are reverberating in the society today. All of them are accurate and iconic characteristics of the mood and life of every Ukrainian for the last 15 years."*

*Pastor Sunday was listed among ten of the most considerable history makers in Ukraine, such as Ukraine's President, deputies, the Prime minister and other influential politicians. His took the tenth place.*

*"If Ukrainians will not take responsibility for their country, I will do it in their stead." — Sunday Adelaja, a Nigerian preacher, (2006).*

"In spite of the rather very contradictory spectrum of views on the Nigerian preacher in the Ukrainian society, it must be admitted that Pastor Adelaja has such admirable personal qualities that most present day Ukrainians lack: confidence, firmness of purpose, the ability to overcome obstacles and challenges with a smile. I am absolute that he would preach even in Antarctica with all his energy and a happy look if you exile him there.

On a serious note, the fact that this phrase is in the rating shows that a man from a different race, religion and culture was able to recognize the Ukrainian problem and desired to take the responsibility for their destiny upon his shoulder.

The reason why this phrase was included in the ratings was the simple fact that a person of a different race, religion and culture was able to express the essence of the primary Ukrainian problem in just a few words," says the author of the article. "That is to say, that the whole history of Ukraine is one big example of Ukrainians trying to shift the responsibility for their own destiny on somebody else, and those 'somebody else' are jumping at the chance to use this opportunities — for their own gain."

Of course, everybody who knows Pastor Sunday knows that he never does anything for selfish gain. His primary and only goal is to fulfill God's will in his life.

During the days of the Orange Revolution, thousands of church members pitched tents at the main square of Ukraine. They served in all areas; the security team, praying for people, cooking meals and supplying medicine. They talked with people and served them with everything they had. One sister from the Embassy of God was a chef in the Ukrainian House, where she, along with thirty other church members cooked hot meals to feed the protesters in the Square. Pastors, leaders and church members were on 24-hour duty in the tent, set up by the Embassy of God in Maidan.

Above all, people who were going there for free food and clothing provided by Christian businessmen and some Samaritans were in need of spiritual food. Inside the former October Palace building, was a medical ministry service unit, and the church also helped the participants of the Orange Revolution there. The church hosted about one thousand people, by providing a place for them to sleep and taking care of their needs. But, above all — the truth of the Word of God was preached.

Here is what Dan Herzog Jewell wrote in his "Today's Christian" article titled, "The Most Influential Pastor in the Eastern Europe is a Nigerian, and He Wants to Reach the Whole World through a Ukrainian Church":

*"During the peaceful Orange Revolution in winter of 2004, over 4,000 members of the Embassy of God church fasted and prayed twelve days in a tent until the presidential elections' results were cancelled. Church members also brought food, warm clothes and tents for thousands of protesters who were picketing on Maidan out in the cold."*

During those days, more than ten thousand members of the Embassy of God held two marches/gatherings on the central streets of the city. They prayed for Ukraine and its future, for the peaceful settlement of the conflict, which occurred during the presidential elections and for the consolidation of the eastern and western regions of the country. Thirty five thousand church members were equipped to work at the polling stations, and five hundred people went to the eastern regions to support those who were involved in picketing and to take part in the second round of election.

In the days of the Orange Revolution, Nigerian-born, Sunday Adelaja, stayed with the people of Ukraine. He was in Maidan, among those who needed God's wisdom, God's Word and prayers. He has become like one of their own. Sunday has become a spiritual support for those whom the Lord has entrusted to him. He has stood on behalf of them before God, and has stood for Ukraine which had become his second home.

Below is Pastor Sunday's letter to the Ukrainian people:

*"My precious and lovely Ukrainian people, you have become my real family. You have replaced my mother and father. You have accepted me, and you have taught me a lot during my stay here in Ukraine. Although sometimes life here wasn't that easy and the attitude towards me wasn't exactly one of excitement, nonetheless, you have taught me a lot with your hospitality toward me.*

*I believe that I have some of the best people surrounding me in this country. You have shown me love, support, and I want to say because of the Ukrainians that I met and have fellowship with; I have made this country my second homeland.*

*Therefore, I want to say thank you to all the Ukrainian people, even to the people who do not receive me and who criticize me. I want to say thank you because of your land, and thanks to your people through who I have become who I am today. We are one. I see myself as a black Ukrainian.*

*I will work to lift the image and the glory of this land of Ukraine wherever I go."*
UKRAINE…
THE LAND CHOSEN BY GOD

At the very beginning of Christianity in Ukraine, Apostle Andrew, in the Bible, prophesied that God would show special favor to the people of Ukraine and would build many churches in different regions of the country. (It is a historical fact that Apostle Andrew, one of Christ's twelve disciples, came to minister in a pagan land, where is now the modern city of Kiev, Ukraine).

For the very first time in the history of Ukraine, representatives from different Christian denominations (Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant, etc.) gathered at Maidan to pray for the settlement of the situation in Ukraine and for the triumph of justice in this land every morning.

The proceedings of Maidan became the evident result of thousands of believers'

prayers. Different churches prayed for revival and freedom in Ukraine.

One thousand and five hundred pastors joined hands to fast and pray and stand in the gap for the destiny of Ukraine, and for its bright future — a future with God. They stood before the throne of God for eighteen hours each day. For twelve days ministers prayed for the grace of God to be revealed to the longsuffering people, chosen by God for His glory.

THE PEOPLE'SPRESIDENT

For many decades, the Ukrainian land has been waiting for that day to come; the wonderful days of an 'orange' winter. In the winter of 2004-2005, people entrusted full authority to the elected president, Victor Yuschenko.

It is finished! God had revealed His will in this land through the triumph of love, truth and justice! For the very first time a profound believer became the President of Ukraine — a man who sincerely respects God and desires to fulfill His will. Viktor Yuschenko is a son of God and a son of Ukraine.

*"The results of the second round of presidential elections kindled a fire of new hope in the hearts of Ukrainian people. In January, all the country was amazed as President Viktor Yuschenko began his first day in office with public prayer, kneeling before the altar along with his wife and children."*

Wall Street Journal", 2005.

There is no doubt that Ukraine has a great future, because the whole nation witnessed the newly elected President start his first workday with a prayer for his country in the presence of many men of God.

The new government of Ukraine acknowledged the role of the Embassy of God and of Pastor Sunday in the life of the country. The President wrote a letter of thanks to Pastor Sunday for the active participation of his church in the Orange Revolution:

*"Thank you for participating in our common victory. There is a part of your diligent work in this victory. You were selfless through out the fight for a free and fair democracy in Ukraine and protection of its ideals. I am convinced that as along as there are people of such dignity, courage and active social standing in Ukraine it will all be well with our country.*

*With best wishes, Victor Yuschenko, The President of Ukraine."*

The Charisma magazine wrote:

*"Now, two years after the members of the largest church in Europe took part in the Orange Revolution which changed the outcome of the presidential elections in a radical way, this church takes rather high political position. According to the words of the Pastor Sunday Adelaja, over 30 members of the Embassy of God church, including Leonid Chernovetsky, the mayor of Kiev, are members of Parliament and other branches of the government."*

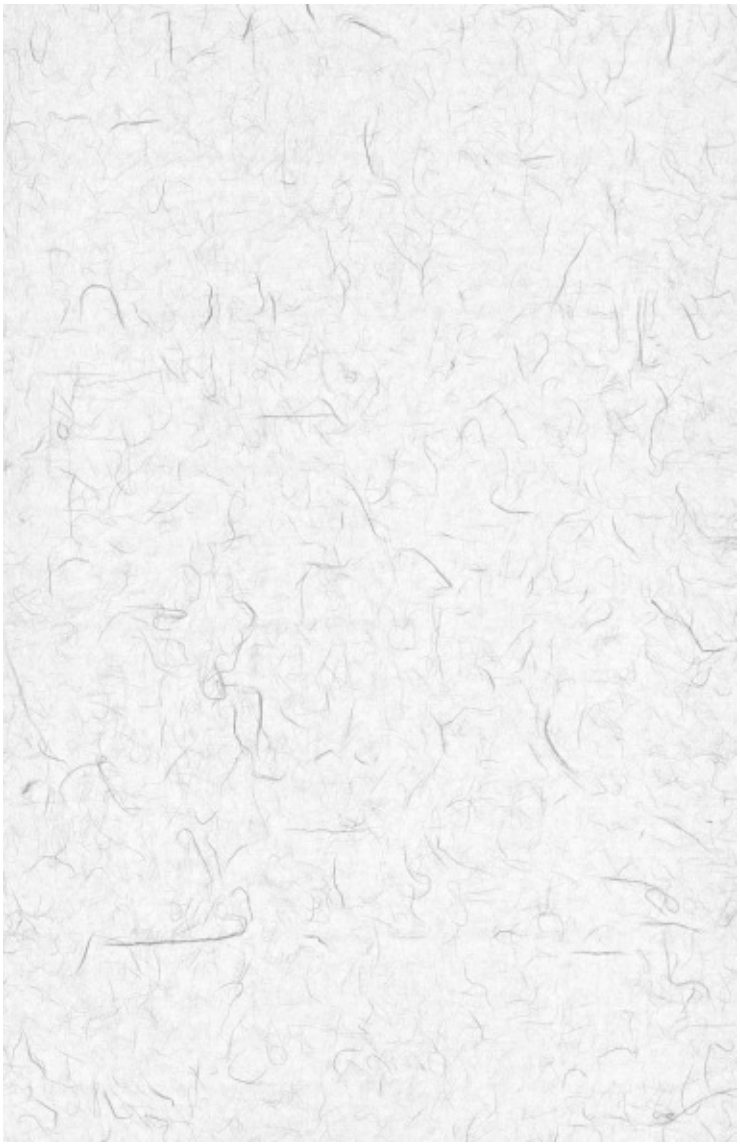
Since the newly elected mayor of Kiev did not belong to the Orthodox Church, mass media began talking again about Pastor Sunday, Leonid Chernovetsky's spiritual mentor. There were so many publications about Sunday Adelaja after the elections of the mayor of Kyiv, that the "Gazeta Po-Kyivski" newspaper called him one of the three key newsmakers of the year. *"The spiritual advisor of the mayor of yiv has turned into a point of interest in our city in a very short time,"* it said on June 6th, 2006.

*"Since, the only thing ancient Kyiv was missing was an oracle, the Pastor boldly took the vacancy of the capital's officer of the Lord. We have to admit that Mr. Adelaja has been keeping people interested in his revelations so far."*

Pastor Sunday gives a very simple explanation for such a stir in Ukrainian press concerning the newly elected mayor. *"Kyiv is the birthplace of the Russian orthodox church. To be an orthodox is a part of culture, and people consider it a shame and an insult that they have a protestant mayor who goes to church with a black Pastor,"* he said in a Washington Post article titled "A Nigerian Preacher is the Pastor of the Largest Church in Ukraine".

In spite of the fact that the election of the protestant mayor has caused a new wave of negative things to be said about Pastor Sunday, he realizes that God is doing His will here on earth and, therefore, continues to fulfill God's command with peace in his heart.

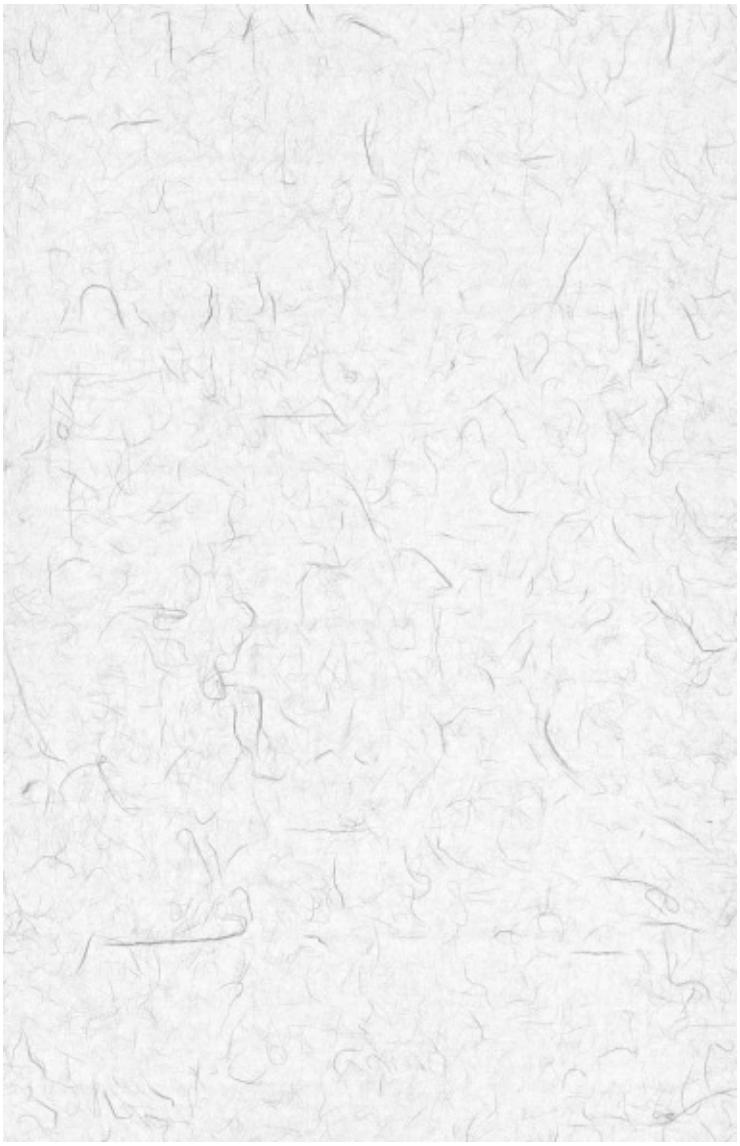
## The March of Life on the streets of Ukraine's capital Kyiv



**Years 2003 — 2004**



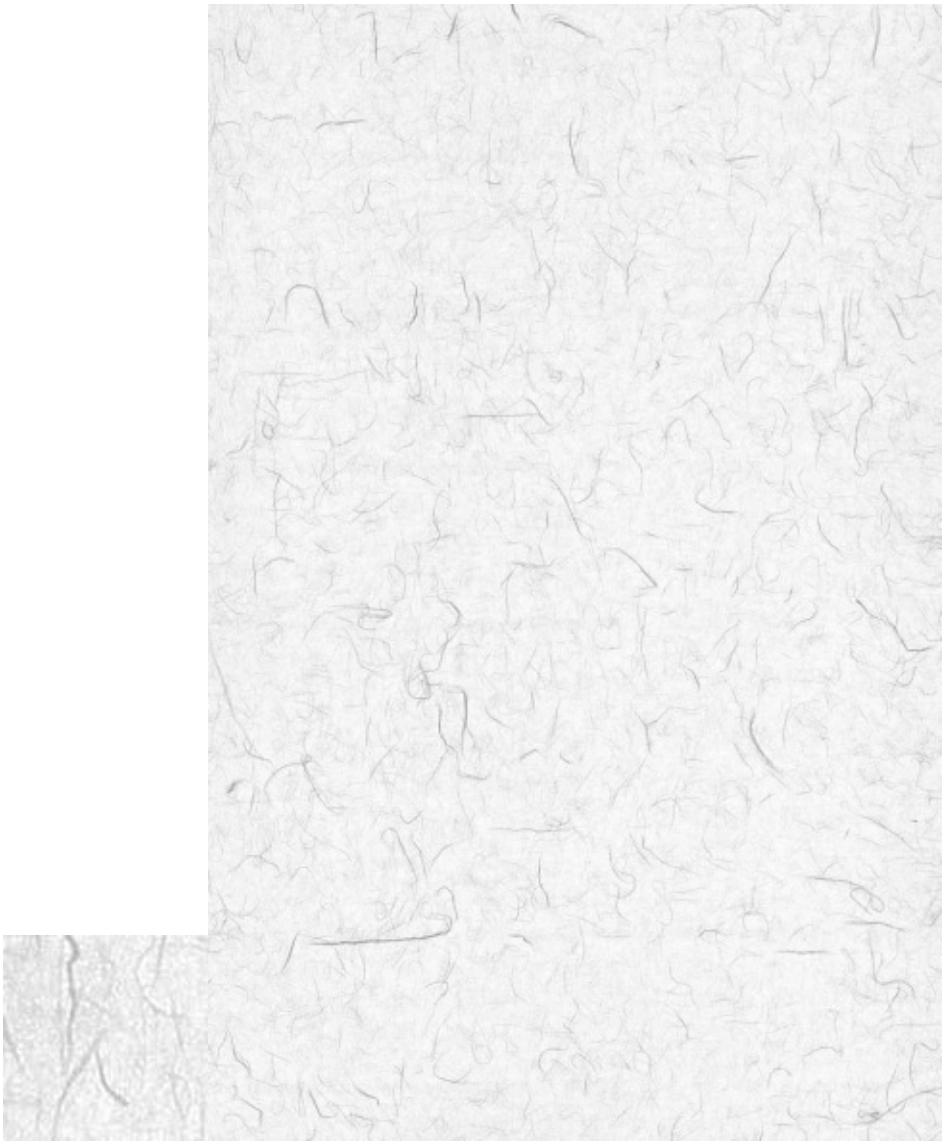

# Prayer for Ukraine



## Pastor Galina Korobka



## At the Kiev City Hall building



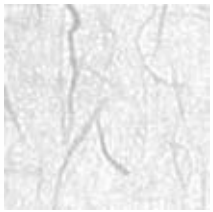
## Nigerian “hohol”



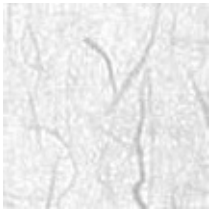
**Pastor Sunday is the**

**best newsmaker of Kiev Mayor of Kiev — Leonid Chernovetskiy**

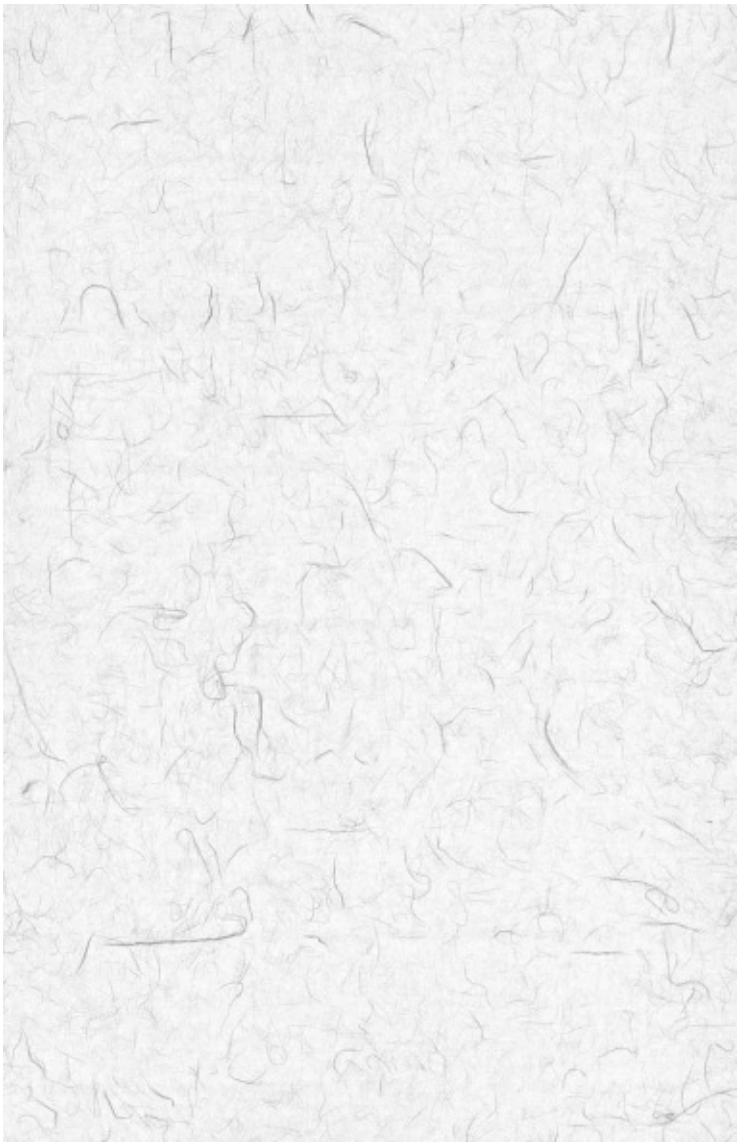


## National rebirth principles



## Revolutionary Maydan



**President’s Gratitude Letter**
**CHAPTER 5**
**Making disciples**

# of all nations

## Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations. Matthew 28:19

MAKING DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS
W

ithout the spiritual transformation of the country, looking forward to a great future would be impossible or a great challenge. The politicians could

be changed, but there would still be need for one spiritual ideology — the ideology of the Kingdom of God. If the leaders of the country stay united with God for the sake of love for Him and for every individual, then we can look forward to a wonderful future, a future of God's abundant blessings.

Pastor Sunday is convinced that the gospel of Jesus Christ is not only for the individuals but also for the whole nations. The gospel of Jesus is not meant only for building the church and the salvation of individuals but for the redemption of the whole nations.

When Jesus gave believers the Great Commission to preach the gospel, He meant that the power inherent in the gospel is great enough to subdue and teach whole nations and to make them His disciples.

*"If we want Ukraine to have a great life tomorrow, we must begin to build the foundation for it today."* With these words, Pastor Sunday began his sermon on the Principles of National Revival, which he delivered on December 5th, 2004, in the heat of the Orange Revolution:

"The way Ukraine will look in 10—25 years will depend on what we do now. And how can we know what we are to do? It says in the Bible that people perish without a revelation from above. This revelation does not come from politicians but from above and it restrains the people and gives direction for the whole nation. God — state — church: this is a three fold cooperation, which will bring prosperity and wellbeing to many generations of Ukrainians."

This was the revelation shared by the members of the Embassy of God church with their countrymen at Maidan during the days of the Orange Revolution.

Today, a little over two years later since the revolution, it would be absolutely timely to remind the people of Ukraine and the government they elected of some of God's truths. Without these nuggets, no nation can become successful even with the best president and parliament.

PRINCIPLES OF NATIONAL TRANSFORMATION 1. Restoring respect for the land we are living in and for the people around us

Folk wisdom says, “Whatever a man sows, so shall he reap.” This applies to all of us. If citizens of the country steal, lie, call each other names and simply devastate the land on which they tread, then the same land begins to call out to God. The land knows how to call out for the judgment of God that comes upon everyone who breaks God’s covenant of love; because the Lord has said that the most important thing in a person’s life is his love for God and for his neighbor. We also need to love the land which we have inherited from the One who created it. If we do not sow respect in the land it repays us with natural disasters, calamities and other hardships.

Recent manipulations of the government during the presidential elections are proof of the infallibility of God’s laws that work regardless of our believing in them. All bad things that we sow in the lives of others, eventually, come back to us in the form of various problems. It is useless to try to hide anything from God. His punishment is unavoidable.

Respect for the land on which we walk and for people who live in it must be in the center of attention of the government that prepares the laws of this land, as well as in the center of every citizen’s attention. The relationships in our society must be based on the principles of God’s love — to love God, to love Ukraine and to love each Ukrainian.

2. The need to eliminate the causes of all of society’s problems

The main reason for problems in our society today, is human sin. Each one of us must realize that many problems in our society are caused not by people but by the sins they allow in their lives. The wages of sin is death, and today we are witnessing this death looming over the society. It is sin which destroys society through drug addiction, alcoholism, prostitution, corruption, organized crime and wrong attitudes toward each other. We can call sin nice names and put it in a colorful package, but it will always remain blight on the society — especially if it is established by the laws of the nation. God’s judgment is awaiting the country and its leaders who trespass the justice of God and Christian morals. Until our country faces the truth and opposes iniquity, we should have no hope for a better future. Without God’s intervention and condemning of sinful actions even the newly-elected government will not be able to change people’s lives for better.

Uprightness and right standing with God (moral and spiritual rectitude in every

area and relation) elevate a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

Proverbs 14:34 (Amplified Bible)

If God’s just laws of high morals, relationships and responsibilities are being broken in a land, this land will suffer. Human laws lead mankind toward chaos and destruction. So, let us stand up for God’s truth, justice and morals, lest we destroy ourselves.

3. It is impossible to change a society without, first, changing the hearts of people

The good cannot reign in a nation of cruel people. It is not laws that change people. Neither can the best government change them. Only the Lord can change people’s hearts. That is why the government must provide for the freedom of religion in any country. The state must encourage churches, religious and social organizations that work towards spiritual education. For this purpose, Christian morals and ethics, God’s commandments, righteousness, just and fair relationships and respect for each person must be included in the education system. Man is above all things! Man has supreme value! Everything in this world, like our constitutions and societies must be for the benefit of man! The hearts of people can be changed only by the Word of God that they have heard and understood and by His Spirit that every person needs.

A new heart will I give you and a new spirit will I put within you, and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you shall heed My ordinances and do them.

Ezekiel 36:26, 27 (Amplified Bible)
Let us open our hearts for faith, hope and God’s love!
4. Unity

Every kingdom divided against itself will not stand and will be destroyed. The power and might of a country lies in its unity. Opposition and divisions always lead to defeat. Unity in the church, unity in people, unity in the nation — these are the things that exalt any nation.

If we want to be a great nation we must be united — a great force.
5. Ability to foresse

Only those who see the country's future can govern the country. Only these people have the right to hold the reins of government in any country. We cannot afford not to care for future generations. What we sow today, we will reap tomorrow. If a country wants to be great tomorrow it must make the efforts today by nurturing and teaching its new generations. That is why one of the very important aspects of the state politics is prospective politics that foresees a high level of education; and this calls for reform of the whole education system.

Even today, we must pay attention to the priority of supporting the country's scientific potential. The spiritual, creative and scientific elite determine tomorrow's growth of the nation.

Information will be the most expensive commodity in the 21st century. The knowledge and wisdom of God will become the greatest value in human society. We must take care of gifted children because the destiny of Ukraine in ten or twenty years depends on them.

"I, Wisdom *from God*, make prudence my dwelling, and I find out knowledge and discretion." Proverbs. 8:12 (Amplified Bible) It is obvious: those who see the future control the nation's destiny.

6. Leadership by example

A country dreaming of greatness must have a leader who would be an example for every citizen. Ukraine will have a great future with a leader who fears God, loves people and puts the interests of society and of each person above his own; one who is a person of great morals and honor, a person of his word. *"Whoever of you wants to become the greatest must be a servant,"* the Lord has said. Such is true leadership, accountable to the people who elected them and serving the people's best interests. The country must not be governed by those who have more money or more power but by those who have servant's hearts and who have dedicated their lives to serving people. God has chosen such a leader in the person of Viktor Yuschenko to start off the change in the history for Ukraine.

Christians, with a crystal clear conscience, who care mostly for the well-being of their nation, must take their rightful place in the nation's government.

7. The rule of Jesus Christ and the implementation of God's standards in the life of society

It is no secret that this material world is governed by the non-material, spiritual realm. Regardless of all arguments for or against the existence of God, there is only one thing we can say for sure: everything we cannot do ourselves we give to the One who is the King and Master of the universe, and He never lets us down and is never late. When human laws contradict God's laws, society will always suffer because, in that, it condemns itself to destruction. We must, in the end, admit to the sovereignty of Jesus Christ's power which was established by the Heavenly Father. That is why every government and every nation that desires to move forward must kneel before Christ, the Savior of our souls. God is still on His throne today. He still directs the affairs of men, and when rulers acknowledge this, the country then has a great future; however, there is no future for those who do not accept their Creator and Savior who has given us new life.

May God help each person to do His will and to establish changes ordain by Him in our society. May this Word that He speaks to us touch our hearts so that our beautiful Ukraine, the blessed land of God, would rise from her knees.

The events that emanated in Ukraine after the Orange Revolution have caused many of the participants to become disillusioned in it. It is not so with Pastor Sunday. People often ask him about the current situation in the country, and here's his answer: *"However bad it all might seem to us on the outside, God has everything under control, and Viktor Yuschenko's presidency is a blessing to Ukraine."*

Sometime ago, God told Pastor Sunday that Ukraine will be the headquarters of his ministry. Today, the truth of that is seen not just by him but by many other people. Therefore, this land will forever remain Pastor's second homeland. But there will be a time for Africa as well.

People from Pastor Sunday's home village, where he grew up as a problematic, little boy, remember him and know about his current accomplishments. He goes there every time he has the opportunity. He cannot and will not forget his homeland where he grew up. Furthermore, as he is helping to build a godly Ukraine, the people of his humble village, as well as people all over the world, will also be lent a hand.

## CHAPTER 6

# Great and

**marvelous are Your works**
**Of the 140 million people of Nigeria Sunday Adelaja is the best ambassador and representative. — President of Nigeria**

THE NATION'S PRIDE
A

A young, black boy makes his way through thick vines in the jungle. His bare feet hurt with sores, and there are tears in his eyes. His grandmother is

ahead of him. She has already found a good tree and has started cutting dead branches off of it. He must go with her to help her pack the firewood, and then bring it back to the village for sale…

Pastor Sunday opened his eyes as the huge airliner began to descend. His past has become so distant now; left in a memory and a dream. In a couple of minutes he will be in his home country. There he will be met by Nigerian legendary disciple, Apostle Abraham Obadare, through whom God works great miracles. Hundreds of thousands of people have received healing at his services while he himself is blind. After he became a minister, he noticed his loss of vision but God told him, *"I am taking your natural vision and giving you a better one. What do you want: to be able to see in the natural or rather have spiritual vision?"* Apostle Obadare chose spiritual. When He asked God how he will be able to read the Bible, God answered him, saying, *"I will put the Bible inside you."* After this, Abraham Obadare had a vision in which God opened his head and put the Bible into it. Since then, he quotes the Bible perfectly. He knows it, so well, that he even corrects other people when they make mistakes while reading Scripture.

"I never dreamt of meeting this great man of God personally," says Pastor Sunday. "But he heard about me when he was in America and invited me to hold a conference at his church in Ilesha, Nigeria. Of course, I accepted his invitation right away."

In the same way Pastor Sunday never dreamed that the President of Nigeria himself will invite him to his residence.

"I was with Pastor Sunday at the reception given by the President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria and I saw how the president received him," Pastor Galina

Korobka says.

*"Of the 140 million people of Nigeria, Sunday Adelaja is the best ambassador and representative,"* President Obasanjo of Nigeria said.

After the meeting with the president, Pastor Sunday was invited to all the states of that country to hold seminars and conferences on the Principles of National Transformation especially for Nigeria's political leaders.

"When I visited my homeland and saw it in shambles, I realized that I knew how to change that country. Since I felt this burden for Nigeria, I decided to visit my homeland at least three times a year," Pastor Sunday says. And when he makes a decision, he stays focused and true to his decision.

*"Your message at the Redeemed Christian of Church, City of David, Lagos, was short but revealingly, deep and very powerful,"* Pastor's cousin, Bode Awolana writes excitedly. *"This message revealed my spiritual ego. I thought I knew some things, but now, I realized that I know nothing. The impact of that message lasted a whole week."*

*I pray that the City of David church would appreciate the spirit of your message on that day. It was rather harsh but it was what Nigeria needed. This message became the greatest challenge for the body of Christ in Nigeria. I think unless this message is going to spread and Nigerian church leaders grasp it and begin to work with that knowledge, it will all be futile. May God continue to strengthen you and may He reveal himself to you all the more.*

*My best regards to Bose and your children.*
*Sincerely yours,*
*Bode Awolana"*

At the 11th anniversary of the church, when three senators from Nigerian parliament asked the church members to let Pastor Sunday go back to his homeland, the reply from the Ukrainian congregation was a thunderous No!

THE PROMISED LAND

In May of 2005, the Israeli government had a summit with the most influential protestant Christian leaders. Seven people met at a round table with the Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, Abraham Girshon, the Minister of Tourism and Benjamin

Netanyahu, the Minister of Finance. Pastor Sunday was one of those seven. “It was amazing how I got invited to that meeting,” the Pastor says. “The Israeli government chose me as a representative of Europe and Africa. They sent a jet for me and paid for my trip there and back as well as for my stay at the King David, the best hotel in Israel.

This was an incredible breakthrough! Those who have visited Israel know the hostile attitude towards the evangelists and missionaries that come to Israel. It is one of the mightiest nations and, at the same time, it is one of the most controversial concerning the Christian World. And there, I was invited to a summit with the government… it was incredible!”

Besides Pastor Sunday, the participants included Pastor Bobbie Houston, representative of Australia and Asia; Louis Cortez, representative of Central and South America and Ted Haggard, who at that time, represented North America. Paul Crouch, the president of TBN (Trinity Broadcasting Network), Mike Little, the president of CBN (Christian Broadcasting Network), and Jay Seculow, well-known lawyer and President Bush’s advisor, were also invited.

They discussed how Israel could be of help to other nations. One option was for Israel to share its agricultural know-how. The Israeli representatives said that they were ready to help any country that the Protestants would name. All those present at the meeting agreed that Ukraine should be the country in question. The Israeli government asked Pastor Sunday to contact the Ukrainian government and to present them this offer, and he did.

AMERICA, AMERICA…

In January of every year, America celebrates the birthday of her national hero, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. All American TV channels invite some of Dr. King’s relatives, the leaders of various nations, preachers and politicians to comment on this event.

On January 15$^{th}$, 2004 Pastor Sunday Adelaja was invited to participate in a similar program hosted by TBN, the largest Christian broadcasting network in the world. There he met Bernice King, the daughter of the late Dr. King and they spoke on the importance of Martin Luther King’s role in fighting against race discrimination.

Besides his TV appearance, Pastor Sunday was also invited to speak at the "Without Borders II" conference, the goal of which was to promote Christianity all over the world. There he preached on how to raise a successful ministry without losing one's family in the process. He shared his life's priorities that were revealed to him by God with the audience. The number one priority in every person's life must be God and having a personal relationship with him; not with the church, not with people; but with Him. The second priority is family. The ministry in the church and work come only after these two.

The highlight of this conference was the meeting between the Pastor and Chuck Morris, a Hollywood star. "Many think that Chuck Morris is a Buddhist but this is not true," Pastor Sunday said, sharing his impressions about his meeting with this famous actor. "He is just a professional karate master. Really he is a serious Christian. He preaches with his wife around the world, and he also leads a movement fighting pornography on TV, in the media and on the internet. I have invited him to come to Kyiv, and he said that he would like to come."

While in the United States in January of 2004, Pastor Sunday also was very much impressed with the "Passion of Christ" movie. He met the director of the film, Mel Gibson. "I have never seen such a movie in my whole life," the Pastor admitted. "Not only is it impressive, but it simply influences the lives of those who watch it. This movie makes people think of their lives today as well as their future and eternity. It lifts all masks from Christianity and the gospel, clearly depicting what Christ had to endure for only one purpose — to save you and me. As we sat and watched the movie, we could hear people crying and weeping. I believe this movie is going to contribute, to a large extent, to change this world."

In September 20—22, 2006, in New York, Pastor Sunday was invited to the "Clinton Global Initiative." During the meeting, the most influential leaders of the world, with the most progressive, innovative ideas and capacity to implement them were in the congress. National leaders, presidents of the most successful non-governmental and social organizations, philanthropists, key mass media leaders, religious leaders and creative thinkers totaling 600 people gathered together to discuss the society's global problems and to determine ways to solve them. Pastor Sunday was among those 600 people and participated in all four major discussions, namely:

- Climate change and new energy sources
- Health in the Society
- Lowering of the poverty level

• Solutions to religious and ethnic conflicts

Here's what he said about this meeting in New York on the church's web-site on December 26, 2006:

*"I thank God for these open doors for me — for the opportunity to participate in the "Clinton's Global Initiative" (CGI) summit, and for the privilege to represent the body of Christ there. I have learned a lot here and would like to share my impressions with you. I was saddened to see so few Christians present at this conference. I believe that they must be at the forefront of all of such projects.*

*According to the Deuteronomy 28:13, we are called to be the head and not the tail, the first and not the last. But in reality, the Christians who are the carriers of potential and of God's power to bring about victory in solving all problems are governed by the world. Christians are sitting within the four walls of the church, thus ignoring God's answer to society's problems and allowing other people to reach the world."*

*All the questions discussed at the CGI meeting were directly related to the body of Christ. Very few believers, however, pay attention to global problems and therefore, it becomes clear why the Lord has passed on this responsibility to the people of the world. God always has many plans and He will fulfill them one way or another.*

*One of the topics discussed was fighting poverty. The Bible contains a great number of verses calling us to eradicate poverty aggressively. There was also a question of global warming and climatic changes which might make life conditions much more difficult for people.*

*The third issue was energy deficit, especially in developing countries. The deficit of water in many countries has lead to crisis and death. Each Christian must take initiative in finding solutions to these global problems. The last issue discussed was the health of mankind. Many people around the world die simply because of the lack of finances and medical care. The CGI leaders took the responsibility of solving these problems by providing a way out of them for the whole of mankind upon themselves. I believe that Christians should be leaders in that but regretfully, only a few Christians have taken up such responsibility. This confirms my first impression that Christians play insufficiently active roles in the*

*secular areas; in cities, countries and in the world at large.*

*I also realized that we often treat the world with too much condemnation. On my way to the CGI summit, I myself had feelings of prejudice toward the members of that gathering and toward its chairman, Bill Clinton, in particular, because of the negative information about him that the mass media had spread in the past."*

*Some people tried to talk me out of going to the CGI summit. They wrote to me saying that they do not support anything that had to do with Bill Clinton. This summit, however, has helped me to see and understand in a new way not only Bill Clinton but also many other people of whom we hear in the media and who play key roles in the lives of our countries.*

*I found out that Bill Clinton and other people present were trying to bring attention to the most important issues. And though, not realizing it, God uses them to find answers and solutions to the problems which are important to the Father's heart. That is why we must not be quick to condemn and to judge others before we figure out the situation and circumstances that caused them to act in one way or another. We as Christians judge people according to our own understanding of sin, especially in the context of sexual sins, homosexuality and abortions. We do not realize that visible sins are just a fraction of the whole concept of sin; there are other things that can disqualify us as Christians.*

*At this summit, I found that there are people who, without realizing it, manifest the fear of God and God's principles such as justice and righteousness. Many of those who consider themselves Christians (those who don't smoke, don't drink and have never been caught in adultery) are less obedient to God than some people who do not consider themselves Christians but adhere to God's principles and instructions.*

*In a certain sense, those who do not consider themselves Christians manifest more Christian principles than those of us who talk about God all the time but practice only a small part of what we preach. I hope you will be able to learn a valuable lesson from my experience at the CGI conference. I advise church leaders to encourage other people to take world-wide leadership positions, and not to condemn other people based on their former unrighteous acts. We do not know their hearts, which may be totally different from the information we receive about them. I hope and pray that these aspects would influence your subsequent impression of people generally."*

*“I have heard and read a great deal about you and about the work you are doing,”* the ex-president Bill Clinton said to Pastor Sunday as they met.

*“Thank you, but you don’t know how much it costs me — how many attacks, criticism, lawsuits and other bothersome things I have had to endure!”* the Pastor replied.

*“Don’t worry,”* Bill Clinton said, *“It is normal. All those who do great things go through such attacks…”*
HEWILLWINBYLOVE
In the beginning of his Christian journey, Sunday made three decisions:

1. Never fear anything in his life
2. Never doubt anything
3. Never let discouragement or bitterness enter his heart.

He latches on to these decisions up to this day. Therefore, he hardly gets discouraged because of other people’s wrong actions. He keeps going, continuing to do good, and sometimes notices that other people mistake his goodness and trust for weakness. His assistants and pastors believe that he is trusting people too much. But in reality he simply opens his heart to everyone because he believes that this is the only right way to go. He will not allow those who discouraged him to harden his heart. No, he will win by love.

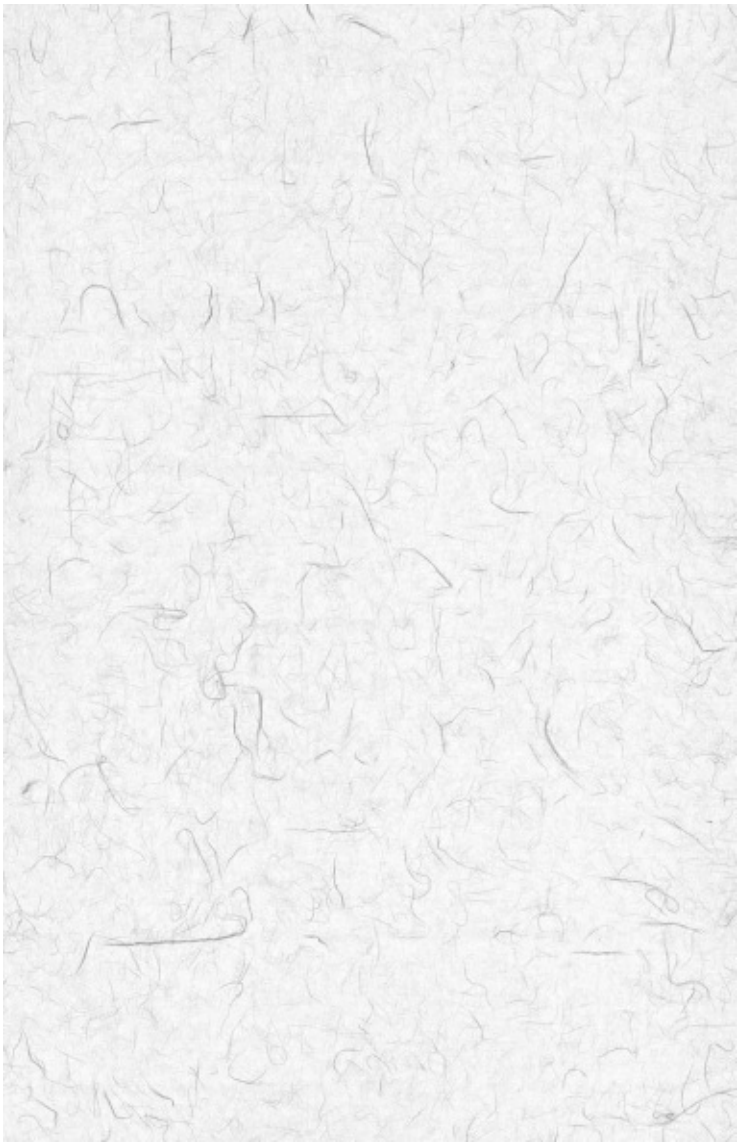
God is using Sunday Adelaja mightily just as He has promised in a vision 20 years ago, and this energetic black man with a radiant smile is only turning forty this year.



**Nigeria Indonesia**
**Norway Australia**

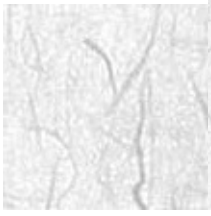


**AustraliaHolland**
**Russia**



**TBN. USA USA**







# “Focus on the Family” Radio Program

Alivaro Uribe Velez.
President of the Republic of Colombia Mr. Joey Cheek. Athlete

Mr. Andrew Young. Former Mayor of Atlanta, Georgia Diana Krall.

Grammy Award
winning jazz vocalist Emeritus Archbishop Desmond Mpilo Tutu

Mr. Tom
Golisano. Founder & Chairman Paychex
Corporation

Mr. Lee Scott Jr., President and CEO of WalMart
Stores, Inc.

Dr. Don Argue. President, Northwest University

Bill Clinton, 42nd President
of the United States Rudolph Murdock. The Media mogul

Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete
President of the United
Republic of
Tanzania
Gerry Adams. The

Honorable President, Sinn Fein

Thomas Friedman,
Foreign Affairs Columnist,

Bill Gates.




The New York Times

Chairman of
Microsoft
Ken Livingston. The Mayor of London Rev. Bill Hybels. Senior

Jean Chretien,
Former Prime
Minister of Chris Tucker,Canada actor, Eternal
Pastor Willow Creek Community church

Sir Richard Branson. Chairman & founder, Virgin Group Limited

His Majesty King Abdullah II, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Rania AlAbdullah,
Queen of the Hashemite

Kingdom of Jordan
Nelson Mandela, 11th President of South Africa

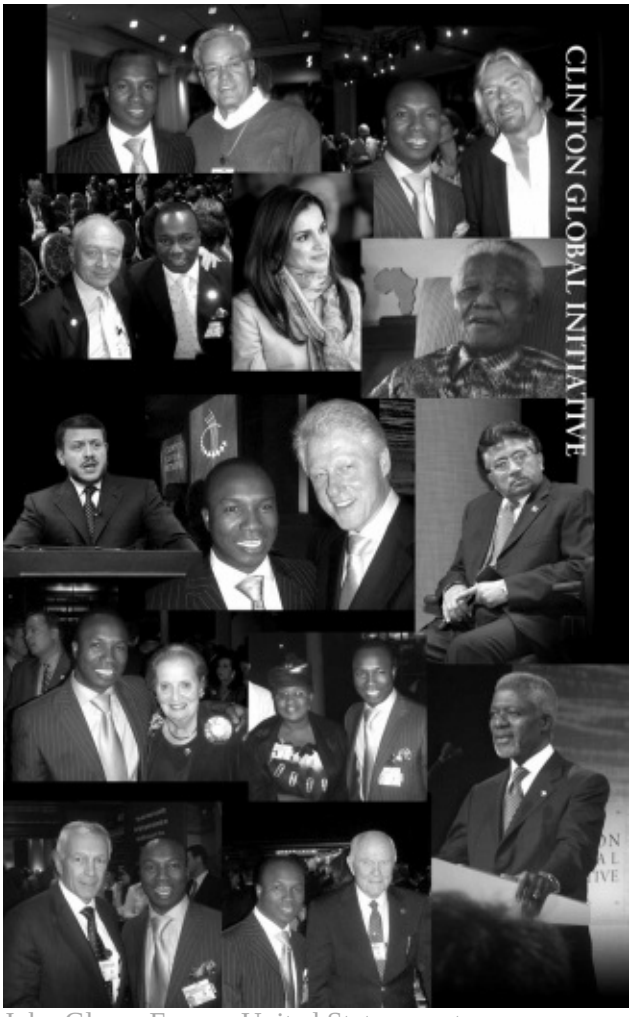
General
Pervez
Musharraf, President of the
Islamic
republic of Pakistan

Wesley
K. Klark.
General,
Former
Supreme Allied Commander of NATO
Madeleine Albright,

Principal, The Albright Group, LLC

Bill Clinton, 42nd President of the United States

Dr. Ngozi OkonjoIweala.
Former Finance Minister
of Nigeria and Foreign
Minister of Nigeria




John Glenn, Former United States senator

Kofi Annan, General Secretary of the United Nations




**CHAPTER 7**

# …from

**a grateful heart**
**It’s hard to count how many people on the planet Thank God for your birth...**



PASTOR SUNDAY IS TURNING FORTY!

*“It’s hard to count how many people on the planet thank God for your birth,”* writes Sergey and Angelika Onischenko from the Covenant Church in Norilsk, Russia, in their letter to Pastor Sunday.

This is true. It is really hard to count, let alone publish in one book, all the letters of gratitude and birthday wishes, but we will try.

*“H Haappppyy 4400tthh BBiirthhddaayy,, PPaassttoorr SSunddaayy!!!!!!*
*Stay stunning!*
*We as the ESD of Pastor Sunday’s Office would like to*

*make the most of this opportunity and wish Pastor Sunday a fabulous 40th year! May you attain your life’s goals and continue to make history for Jesus! We adore you!*

*You are the cream of the crop and top of the pops!”* — Bridget Smith and Carolyn Veldbloem, English Secretarial Department (ESD), Pastor Sunday’s

Office, Kyiv, Ukraine

*“It is impossible not to become accomplished when you are near such a person. His influence, on my destiny and on my calling, has brought great victory into my personal life as well as that of my family. He helps each person to judge himself or herself from God’s viewpoint and to see in themselves the great potential given by God for the advancement of God’s kingdom on earth. It is impossible to stay idle if you are around him. He is like a charger, giving power to each person.*

*We always thank God for our divinely ordained meeting with him. Thank you very much, Pastor Sunday, for believing in us. May God abundantly bless you home, family and future plans. We love you very much. Thank you for being here.”*

— Lydia Biletskaya, Bishop’s wife, Embassy of God, Sacramento, USA.

*“I came to church with a broken life and ministry. Through my encounter with Pastor Sunday and through his ministry, God not only healed me but also raised me up in ministry, so much, that now all the world is open to me.”*

— Vasily Biletsky, Bishop, Embassy of God, Sacramento USA.

*“I am indeed grateful to God for the ministry of Pastor Sunday Adelaja. God has used him mightily to spark a great Revival fire which will engulf not only Europe but the whole world in general. I am excited already about the future of his ministry and feel blessed to be a beneficiary of this. Congratulations sir, on your 40$^{th}$ birthday.”*

— Pastor Mpieri Bismarck Berlin-Germany

*“Every meeting with Pastor Sunday is like a springboard for me to move to a new level in my life and ministry. What amazes me, the most, in Pastor Sunday is his fatherly heart. You seldom get to meet somebody who will believe in you while you are still ‘a nobody’, and who will support you when you need it. These are some of Pastor Sunday’s qualities that I would like to have in my life.”*

— Pastor Natalia Kolyada, Embassyof God church, Athens, Greece.

*“Wow! You’re going to be 40 and yet you walk in the wisdom of a 60 year old*

*man. 2007 will be your greatest year ever. I am so honored to be called your friend. I am sure I do love you and thank God for our eternal friendship. From A grateful heart, I want to say Happy Birthday and may God continue to bless your life with His presence and favor. 2007 will be The year of God's abundance, putting an end to the drought. The drought is over and get ready for God to blow your mind with His abundance. My friend, words will never express my deep love and appreciation for you and all that God has called you to. You're the best!*

*This is God's Word to you and your wonderful church family!*
You crown the year with Your goodness, And Your paths drip with abundance.
Ps 65:11 NKJV
*2007 will be the greatest year for The Embassy of God. 2006 was a year of God setting the stage for the year of abundance. Once again, 2007 will be the greatest year yet. The Word of the Lord was clear, precise and confirmed quickly, "Abundance!" In 2007, God wants to move in and on your lives, so that the world will be in AWE of God!"* — Sam Hinn, Founder, The Gathering Place Worship Center, Orlando, USA.

*"I am very grateful to the Pastor for teaching us how to live and build our families, not destroy them. Now our feelings don't die but are new with every passing year. Therefore, the home becomes a place you are drawn to, a place where you feel needed and loved."*

— Natalia Polevik, missionary, Madrid, Spain

*"Thank you, Pastor, for the life that God gave me through you. Thank you for your trust and faith in me. I had a privilege to serve beside you for over eight years now. I believe I will prove your dream true and fulfill God's vision. Everything does not come easy but you are a worthy example. I follow you, learn from you and imitate you. I pray you accomplish everything God has prepared for you to do in your life and ministry. May you have strength, might, health, victories and joy!"*

— Pastor Galina Korobka, Embassy of God,Kyiv, Ukraine.

*"Thank you, Pastor Sunday, for your great love for Ukraine that is manifested in your daily hard work despite persecutions, rejections, scorn and misunderstanding of some people. Know that most people who know you personally or through your books and TV programs have grown to love you*

*forever and will be forever grateful to you for the changes that happened in many families as well as in our country and beyond, all thanks to your influence. You have left a lasting impression in the history of Ukraine as a vivid example of self-sacrifice and selfless love for God and people."*

— Pastor Ludwig Ugrin, New Testament church,Smela, Ukraine.

*"Meeting with Pastor Sunday has radically changed my life for the better. He has become a true spiritual father for me. While there are such people as Pastor Sunday in any land; it has a future."*

— Inga Srebnitskaya, Worship teacher, Sacramento, USA.

*"All I know and can do is as a result of Pastor Sunday's continual work. He invests himself and his exceedingly great spiritual experience in his disciples. I thank my dear Pastor Sunday for his long-suffering, love and wisdom, for believing in us and desiring to raise us up, for the example of uncompromising dedication to the Lord and for genuine sincerity."*

— Pastor Irina Bekreshova, Ark of the Covenant spiritual development mission, Kyiv, Ukraine.

*"Dear Pastor, we just wanted to congratulate you on your birthday. We are blessed and highly privileged by God to be part of the God Embassy family, your family. May God grant you as Caleb the same grace such that in 40 years from now you will still maintain the same youthful strength and zeal for the Lord and you will be subduing new mountains in Jesus name just as you are doing constantly now in Jesus name."*

— Tope and Lola and the children History Makers Bible School, Germany

*"Dear Pastor Sunday! Thank you very much for your fatherly, loving heart that is ready to embrace everyone and that has embraced us. Thank you for your patience, for believing in us, for your sincerity, for your honesty, for your simplicity, for your rich inner world! You are a great example to imitate. There is a lot for us to think about, to learn from and to strive toward! Thank you!"*

— Anna and Vyacheslav Sarzhan, Word of Faith church, Vyshgorod, Ukraine

*"The eyes, the heart, the character and the works of Pastor Sunday have*

*revealed God to me and I've seen Jesus. Thanks to my Pastor I learned what freedom, love, acceptance, forgiveness and sacrifice mean. I would like to thank my dear Pastor from the bottom of my heart for the changes in my life. It was all because of you, Pastor Sunday! Thank you!"*

— Marina Pirskaya, Pastor Sunday'sRussian PA.

*"Dear Pastor Sunday, I thank you for you are special part in my life. There was a time when you surrounded me with such love and understanding that really helped me to stay focused and become accomplished. You have made me; a former alcoholic, into the restorer of broken lives"*

— Pastor Natalia Potopayeva, Kassel, Germany.

*"From the moment we met Pastor Sunday, we were instantly connected to the grace that is evident on his life. He also has a very special simplicity and approachability rare in men with his kind of influence. He has been very gracious to us and easy to relate to. We highly regard the relationship we have with him. We thank God for using Pastor Sunday in such a great way. The tremendous move of God in the Embassy of God is nothing short of the hand of God. It is a miracle indeed. Happy birthday to you Pastor Sunday."*

— Rev(s). Olumide and Kayode Taiwo Vision for Life Ministries International Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

*"This is my letter of thanks to you for all that you've done for me. Thank you for inviting me to be a part of your staff team and for blessing me in countless ways thus far. Thank you for obeying the voice of God for the call upon my life. My great appreciation to you and Pastor Bose for your kindness, hospitality and generosity you have shown to me. At a time, when I was unsure of the next step in my life and crying out to God for direction, your voice was heard beckoning me from the heart of Ukraine.*

*May God richly bless you and your wonderful family and the Embassy of God in every way, in Jesus name! Happy birthday 40th birthday! May the next part of your life be greater and more influential than you could ever dream or imagine!"*

— Bridget Smith, Jeffrey's Bay, South Africa.

*“Dear Pastor Sunday, thank you very much for spending your life for us so that we would become accomplished and be happy. I have found a father in you and I am very thankful to God for this. As I look at you and your service to God, I want to follow your example. It is a great honor for me to labor in the same field with you. With love and respect.”*

— Oksana Kisil, Private entrepreneur, Kiev, Ukraine.

*“We appreciate you, your ministry, example, sacrifice and obedience. I believe that your ministry in the last several months in Nigeria has positively influenced the direction of history and the impact of the gospel in our lifetime.”*

— Pastor John Enelamah End Times Revival Ministries, Lagos, Nigeria

*“I am most grateful to Pastor Sunday for his work in Ukraine in restoring human personalities. I am a result of his prayers, sermons and his priceless work. Thank you, Pastor!”*

— Natalia Kubyshkina, director, Nuga Best health and beauty salons, Vishnevy, Ukraine.

*“Dear Pastor Sunday, you mean and have done too much for me. I thank God for you; because of you I have met my God, found my destiny and met my wife. You have helped me to learn what is truly valuable, what I should respect, what I should acquire and what I should get rid of, where I should and shouldn’t go, what I should love and what I should hate. Now I know these things for sure.*

*All because I listened to you, I have a publishing house and people’s respect. Therefore, Pastor, it wasn’t in vain when you didn’t have enough sleep, when you were humiliated, when you stood against incredible pressure. It is not in vain when you kept seeking God, spent so much time alone and worked so much. There are few real heroes in our time but you are one of my heroes. I respect you, appreciate you, honor you and love you. Happy birthday! My family also congratulates you. You will always remain our father, respected and loved.”*

— Dmitry Kirichenko, director, Bright Star Publishing House.

*“Your birthday is infinitely important.*
*It is important that you have been born to give warmth. It is important that your eyes reflect the sunrise.*

*It is important that you want to embrace the whole world. That your heart is beautiful with a beauty out of this world, That each one of us has a place in that piece of paradise. That you flourish with hospitality toward every one of us. It is important that your life is like an ornament in the land. It is important that the Lord has discovered a treasure in you It is important that He gave you to us."*

— O. D. Nemtsev

*"I am eternally grateful to God for the rare gift, you and your kind and beautiful wife are to the body of Christ in this generation. I am glad I came to Kyiv and will forever remember the Christian excitement that permeated the air during my stay in Kyiv.*

*Truly, I feel like the Queen of Sheba, who said of king Solomon "the half was not told me. You exceed in wisdom and prosperity the report which I heard." The God that began a good thing in you will surely bring it to its perfect conclusion. I will continue to remember you in my prayers, for I am convinced, you still have places to go, people to meet, lives to change and more of Heaven to touch for the sake of mankind.*

*The style of a vibrant Christian enthusiasm plus palpable genuineness and spiritual simplicity give Embassy of God, Kiev its unique characteristic that is hard to ignore. I saw this first hand when I visited.*

*Your people are exceptional in many aspects; it was a wonderful opportunity to share the message of Jesus Christ with them."*

— Dr. Joe Ibojie, The Fathers House Church Network, Aberdeen, Scotland.

*"I came in contact with the ministry of Pastor Sunday Adelaja in July 2003, through his teaching materials. At a point in that year I had unrest within me. I heard a still small voice inside me saying, "Is this all there is to ministry?" The fact is we were experiencing tremendous increase in every area of ministry but I knew that there must be more to it. This was the time when by divine arrangement I came in contact with Pastor Sunday's 50 messages on Pastoring without Tears. I got the answers to what my spirit had been searching for. God through Pastor Sunday's teachings taught me several principles on the kingdom concept that began to set new direction for my ministry and brought a great sense of fulfillment.*

*As you celebrate this occasion of your 40th Birthday, we want you to know that we are very proud of you, especially for yielding yourself to God as a vessel to be used in touching lives. Your life has touched us greatly and you will continue to soar high as the eagles. On behalf of my family, the family of Abundant Life Christian Center and the Possessing the Nations Ministerial Association, I wish you a prosperous birthday."*

— Pastor Festus Adeyeye, Abundant Life Christian Center, Brooklyn, New York, USA.

*"My heart is filled with thankfulness for such a person as you. Your life is an example for us. We see Jesus through you and touch His love through your ministry. You are still so young but you are very wise, sincere and sacrificial. I admire your dedication and your thirst for God. You are a true son of our Father who brings and spreads His kingdom. May God's grace and wisdom, protection and blessings accompany you wherever you go. You are a treasure in God's hand which He has given to the world. I love you very much and thank God for the opportunity to know you and to learn from you."*

— Natalia Zhuka, Latvia.

*"I am very thankful to God for the great example, challenge and inspiration pastor Sunday has been to us as a family and a ministry. His visits to our yearly national revival conferences have brought faith and encouragement to many ministers who otherwise were at the verge of giving up out of frustrations and discouragement. He is leading many to become History Makers indeed."*

— Pastor James Commey, International Harvest Christian Center, Copenhagen, Denmark.

*"We were broken, disillusioned, tired of people and ready to leave the ministry and to go back into the world when God allowed us to meet Pastor Sunday Adelaja. This meeting has radically changed our destinies and our ministry. On behalf of the Kingdom of God church and all those who might not be with us today we thank Pastor Sunday very much."*

— Pastors Viktor and Tamara Drozdov, Kingdom of God church, Minsk, Belarus.

*"I believe that God has packaged you for this generation in a time as this, to*

*transform life and humble men for his glory. Your messages are really from the heart of God. Thank you for being available for this generation.*

*I believe your sermons will be instrumental to humbling the so called preachers of a prosperity gospel that is spread from pulpits without a single word of salvation and kingdom expansion. Sir, to be frank with you, the amount of success you have attained and yet remained humble will force every flamboyant minister to wire down a little bit. So, your messages on the air will serve as an antidote against all heretic and money centric gospel that is rampant, including your humility and plain truth in your sermons".*

— Pastor Prince Chikezie, Royal Law Ministries, South Korea.

*"I came to church as a broken drug addict who had lost it all — my health, my friends, my family relationships. Because of Pastor Sunday's sound teaching and his dedicated heart I rose up and began to serve people. Pastor Sunday is my role model and my spiritual father. Thank you, Pastor Sunday!"*

— Pastor Fyodor Konovalov, Embassy of God church, Nikolayev, Ukraine.

*"Pastor Sunday is for real! He is alive and sincere; he is very wise and loving. When you are near him you believe that you can do it all. If not for him, I would have been be destroyed by religion."*

— Pastor Lyudmila Lebedeva, Velikiy Novgorod, Russia.

*"I am very humbled to know him, his family and the Embassy of God. He is an example of excellent visionary leadership and self control. Having worked with him in his office in Kyiv now for over one and a half years I grow more and more grateful to God for His grace. Pastor Sunday is as good as a friend and a pastor.*

*You picked me out of the crowd when I was depressed and using drugs. You helped to restore my parents' and family relationships. You believed in me. You protected me.*

*I appreciate you and your family. You will never know how precious you are to me. I look forward to working with you in future!"*

— Carolyn Veldbloem, Groningen, The Netherlands.

*“It is great joy for us that Sunday’s programs are being broadcast on CNL. Some of our viewers express their satisfaction from viewing the Embassy of God’s programs. We wish you growth and excellent relationships with brothers in Christ. Walk in His light, always speak the truth, pray and act and you will see the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ in your life. May God bless you abundantly.”*

— Pastor/Apostle Maxim Maximov, New Life church/ CNL Christian TV channel, Almaty, Kazakhstan.

*“The church desperately needs more people like you. There is a very distinct sound from heaven that emanates from you! It is very accurate and timely for the earth today.*

*Personally, I was so blessed by your visit to London. It is such a great honor to meet such a great man sent by the Almighty God. In your case you make it even greater by your simplicity, approachability, humility and lack of complication!*

*On behalf of many, I want to thank you very much for your simplicity, humility and for allowing God to use you. I see so much promotion, honor, glory and greatness coming to you. You have not seen anything yet!”*

— Gbenga Orimoloye, Epping, Essex, United Kingdom.

*“I am very thankful to Pastor Sunday for his love, faithfulness and obedience to the Lord. This brings great blessings to millions of people. My family and I love Pastor Sunday and his family very much.”*

— Pastor Sarkis Grigoryan, Ak-Suu, Kyrgyzstan.

*“Since the day I first met Pastor Sunday, he always tries to lift up everybody around him. He is an example of how each one must care not only for himself but for others as well. Thank you, Pastor, for manifesting God in the flesh untiringly and for inspiring me. Happy birthday! May your strength be multiplied!”*

— Pastor Rufus Friday Ajiboye, The Spirit and The TruthChristian Church, Lielvarde, Latvia.

*“My wife and I have known Pastor Sunday since 1991. Back then he was not only a student at Belarussian State University, but a strong leader who influenced young people many of whom have given their lives to Jesus Christ.*

*We would like to thank him for his inspiring example of a successful Pastor, for his good teaching, great conferences and for our friendship!"*

— Senior Pastor Vyacheslav Goncharenko, New Life Church, Minsk, Belarus.

*"Thank you, dear Pastor, for the delicious food you prepare for us, which is life. After I meet with people and tell them about the Embassy of God church and how we are taught to live in the kingdom of God here on earth, a revolution in thinking occurs. Praise God, your name will come in many families and will open people's eyes so that they will know the real living God."*

— Lyubov Kurbala, Konstantinovka, Ukraine.

*"I am grateful to our dear Pastor for dedicating his life to serving the people of Ukraine. His ministry is a worthy example. As a true Christian, I dream of working in Pastor's team for the good of my country and of people living in it."*

— Svetlana Medvedeva, accountant, Neteshin, Khmelnitsky region, Ukraine.
*"I thank Pastor Sunday for believing in me when I needed support as I started ministering six years ago."*

— Nina Novitskaya, Nation's Health and Development Charity Fund, Kiev, Ukraine.

*"I have met a father. Apostle Sunday became for me just like Apostle Paul was for young Timothy — a ladder to the personal spiritual growth and the heights of God's success, and as I climb this ladder I will be able to help others to climb it, too."*

— Vladislav Serikov, Yuznho-Sakhalinsk, Russia.

*"Dear Pastor Sunday and Bose! Thank you very much for accepting God's challenge. You are a great gift to Ukraine! You are great people before God! Thank you for allowing God to use you as vessels for His glory! Pastor, the power of anointing is upon you! It is transferred via television and received by faith. I am a witness to that! Because of you and God a new thing from God started in Evpatoria. I love you and the church. Thank you again, we are praying for you."*

— Elena, Good News Church, Evpatoria, Crimea, Ukraine.

*“I want to thank you for your Father’s heart. You love people not because they do or do not do something, but because of whom they are. For me one of the most important things about you is that I can TRUST you 100%… You show people an example of God the Father.*

*Your faith in me always encourages me to move along and reach for more… Sometimes in my life you trusted me to do something and I could not even imagine that I am able to do, it was too big for my mind… but you had so much faith in me… and I just trusted you… and I was able! You always want to raise people and help them to fulfill their destiny… It is impossible to know you and not succeed in life!*

*Thank you for being obedient to God, Pastor! I would never have become who I am now without you!”* — Svetlana Kutsenko Kyiv, Ukraine

*“Dear Pastor, teacher and father! Thanks to your (and Bose’s) example our relationship was restored. We have received grace and strength to overcome difficulties. May God’s mercy and grace increase in your family. We love you!”*

— Vitaly and Zoya Volotovsky

*“Pastors Bose and Sunday! We are very grateful to have such great young couple as you in Ukraine! We are grateful that you were obedient to God who brought you to Ukraine, that you have dedicated yourselves to our nation, that you have loved our people and received us into your hearts just as we are. We are also grateful for the responsibility and challenge you took from the Lord to revive our country! Thank you for your life is based on the Word of God. Thank you for remaining faithful and in peace during the times of hardships. Let nothing visible lead you astray from God’s way; may God give you strength to live by the invisible and to trust in Him. We are standing behind you!”*

— Thursday all-night prayer team, Kiev.

*“Thank God for all the great things he is using you to do, but I discovered that what I covet the most and crave for in my own life is your love and passion for God and not things; your commitment to seek His presence.*

*The main reason I’m writing this is to say thank you for yielding to God and being a great example. Only eternity can tell the impact you’ve made on my life.”*

— Pastor Gregory Ijiwola, The Citylight International Assembly, Morton Grove, Illinois,USA.

*“Pastor Sunday is an enigma and a miracle in the hand of God. He has an unusual calling crowned with unusual grace.*

*Since Pastor Sunday visited us in the UK, my ministry has been growing from strength to strength. I am now a better pastor with a changed mentality, all thanks to Pastor Sunday.*

*And God bless Pastor Bose for her unparalleled support for Pastor Sunday. She is a blessing and one woman in a million.*

*From my wonderful wife, Bimbo, and I, Happy Birthday, Pastor Sunday.”*
— Pastor Dele Olawanle, Winners Kingdom, London.

*“I’m grateful to have Pastor Sunday as my lead pastor. He is a spirit father to me and at the same time a great friend. I enjoy being part of his ministry. I love learning from him, how to become a good preacher, also, how to love others from all my heart and have stronger faith in God...”*

— Lana Svetlana Shilov, Banking and Financial Carrier, Loan Officer Sacramento, USA.

*“We are so grateful to Pastor Sunday for providing spiritual covering and for continuously encouraging us to go deeper into God’s presence. Indeed, Pastor Sunday gave me (Ed) some personal advice on how to pray fervently for breakthrough and revelation... and now, because of that advice I have a beautiful wife and an amazing family. We are so thankful and happy that God, in his mercy, would even allow us to know Pastor Sunday and Pastor Bose.”*

— Edward and Nataliya Dickson, Kiev/Canada.

*“You will never know the impact that you have made on our lives, we know that it wasn’t you, it was and is definitely the Jesus Christ in You! To God belongs All Glory and Honor!*

*You love God and love people! You pour your heart into others, not rushing, showing genuine concern while giving each individual your undivided attention, encouraging the saints to always keep God first, pray, fast and fulfill their*

*purpose, and destiny in the Kingdom of Jesus Christ! Always for the Glory and Honor of the Father!"*

— Evangelist Paula Yorker & Family, Deltona, Florida, USA.

*"I am a former drug addict (I used drugs for 11 years), a prostitute and an alcoholic; all my life was trampled by the devil. Pastor Sunday always says, "Whoever meets me even once will never be the same but his or her life will change for the better." I think my life is a vivid example of how anybody who meets pastor Sunday and gets serious with God will be able to reach great heights and become accomplished."*

— Tatiana Galushko, Head, Social Work Dept, Embassy of God Church, Kiev.

*"Thank you for believing in me when nobody else did, and for helping me to find my calling."*
— Julia Belousova, Pastor, St. Petersburg, Russia.

*"I thank the pastor for creating favorable conditions for the fulfillment of each person's potential, including mine. I am a former alcoholic, but thanks to pastor Sunday's teaching I was able to discover my calling. I believed him when he said that God can use even someone like me for his glory. Thank you very much, pastor!"*

— Yury Grushovenko, Director, Planet in Children's Hands, Kiev, Ukraine.

*"I am happy that I have discovered this church not only because this church is the largest in Ukraine, but also because it has a great pastor. In him, I have found not only a great friend and mentor, but also a person through whom the Lord bestows His blessings upon us, a person in whom I sense the mercy and covering of God."*

— Vassily Onopenko, Chairman, Supreme Court of Ukraine.

*"Pastor Sunday is a person to whom I am deeply grateful to, for many things in my life, as an individual and as a minister of God. In the hardest time of my life, he was near as a friend and as a good shepherd who cared for me. In a short period of time, he helped me to turn from a broken and lost person into a minister full of power and faith. His unique contribution helped me to become accomplished, and I will always remember the things he did for me."*

— Sophia Zhukotanskaya, Doctor of Sociology, Doctor of Theology, Aide to deputy of the Supreme Council of Ukraine.

*"Pastor Sunday is a young old man: young because of his age of less than 40 years old. Old because at such a young age he has known what old men like me know and has been able to accomplish what many old men have not been able to do."*

— T. L. Osborn

*"May God bless you, Sunday throughout your mission,"* says Rudolph Giuliani, former Mayor of New York. *"When I come to Ukraine, I will be sure to visit your church."*

*"As I traveled around the world and met key Christian leaders, I saw several who were radically different from all the rest. Pastor Sunday is one of them. When I first met him I realized that there is something special about him. It was obvious that God's mercy and anointing are upon him. Since the day we met, we became close friends and have stayed that way. Pastor Sunday is a man one would want to be friend with. He always inspires, gives hope and encourages."*

— John C. Maxwell, Author/Speaker/Founder/INJOY

*"I am in absolute awe of how God can send someone from a different continent, place him into an Eastern European nation and build the largest church in the continent; and then, for this man to build such a passion into these people is staggering and encouraging to all the world. I am so grateful that God has raised up Pastor Sunday to influence the church of the Ukraine which is also influencing the church of the nations. Nothing is impossible with God and nothing is impossible for him who believes."*

— John Bevere, Author/Speaker/President, Messenger International, Colorado Springs/Australia/United Kingdom.

*"When I first came to Ukraine, I was really impressed when I saw what is happening in this country. Of course, it is quite unusual to see a Nigerian as pastor of a church full of white people. This simply amazes people all around the world. Pastor Sunday! You are one of the greatest leaders of the Christian world. Your name will be recorded in the history of Christianity along with others who have changed the status quo for the sake of Jesus Christ! You are my friend!"*

— Dr. Peter J. Daniels, Australian billionaire, President and Founder, World Centre for Entrepreneurial Studies, Australia.

*"My first visit to the church had me marveled at the work that God was doing in Kyiv and the number of native Ukrainians gathered to worship God. This kind of gathering we thought was only possible in Nigeria. The very fact of having a Nigerian Pastor in the person of Pastor Sunday Adelaja leading this congregation and preaching in Russian is an expression of the wisdom of God."*

— Tony Rapu, Pastor, This Present House, Lagos, Nigeria.

*"As a journalist, I have interviewed many key people in the Christian world. In all my career, Sunday Adelaja and his Embassy of God church impressed me the most. I am grateful to God for what He has done during these twelve years of Pastor Sunday's ministry. I pray that the Lord would continue to bless this church and that Pastor Sunday Adelaja would remain the same humble man of God I first saw him."*

— Stephen Strang, Founder, "Charisma" magazine.

World Christian leaders cannot contain their joy as they witness this mighty move of God in the former atheist territory:

*"The development and accomplishments of my friend, Pastor Sunday, over the past twelve years is nothing more a divine miracle and contradicts all the norms of human expectations. I am humbled, honored and privileged to know, fellowship and serve this unique, passionate and inspiring man and to testify of his humility, sincerity and dedication to the vision, people and nation the Lord of Heaven have called him to.*

*The nation of the Ukraine is blessed to have had the apostolic and prophetic gift of Pastor Sunday for the past twelve years and I believe their national future is tied to the growth and expansion of the church of God in the nation."*

— DR. MYLES MUNROE, BFMI/ITWLA, Nassau, Bahamas.

Besides preaching the Word of God, the Embassy of God is heavily involved in social work. The church has educational center, children's ministry, youth ministry, family ministry, prison ministry, several rehabilitation centers for alcohol and drug addicts and much more. There are people working with

homeless children and with HIV-positive people, as well as operating a crisis hotline. There are over 200 different ministries in the Embassy of God today that bring forth concrete results: over 3,000 people were delivered from alcohol and drug addiction, over 500 runaway children were returned to their families, hundreds and thousands of families were restored, thousands of needy and homeless people are getting meals daily as well as medical care and judicial advise at “Stephania” charity soup kitchen. That is just to mention a few.
Here are some more letters of gratitude:

*“Thank you, pastor, for taking an active part in the spiritual work of restoring the needy, the homeless, the pensioners, the drug and alcohol addicts, the single mothers, the orphans and the children from high risk families to normal life.”*

— Anna Grigoryschuk, Honored physician of Ukraine, Director of Medical Center.

*“Thank you very much for your help, compassion, understanding, care, and love toward others and thank you for your work in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ. We wish you sound health, long life, success in your work, peace and love.”*

— K. M. Gubsky, Chairman, “Cerebral” Children’s Social Organization.

*“The significant contribution of the Embassy of God church and you personally to the work of spiritual transformation of society in general as well as improving the life of people on an individual level is well known both in Ukraine and abroad. This concurs with the tasks of our organization.*

*It is a privilege for us to award you the Golden medal “Honor and dignity”. You are an Honored Protector of Human Rights.”*

— Igor Danilov, Chairman, The International Committee for Human Rights.

*“We are grateful for help in establishing the program ‘Say NO to drugs’ on a governmental level. May God bless you, your family and your church!”*

— Pastor Igor Turkov, The Resurrection Fund.
And the list goes on and on…

It is obvious that there are thousands of such letters of gratitude from all kinds of

organizations, funds and social services who were helped by Pastor Sunday and the members of the Embassy of God. All these letters are kept with great care at the church office because they testify of our dear pastor and his grateful heart.

Every year, the highly expected anniversary of the Embassy of God attracts multitudes. It has became a major event in the city. About 40,000 people from Kyiv and all over the world gather together every year in spring at the Kyiv Sport Palace for four days of joy, love and gratitude to their Creator and to those who have responded to His call and began to serve people, bringing the Gospel of salvation into their lives.

*“My trip to Ukraine for the 11th Anniversary of the Embassy of God Celebration was one of the most significant moments in my life and in all my years that I have been in full time ministry. Not only was I impacted by the fire of the Spirit that is burning in Ukraine but, also, by the most precious and wonderful hospitality and love of the people. I was privileged to stay in the home of a family in the church and even celebrate my birthday ‘Ukrainian style!’ I look forward to returning to Ukraine again. I am honored and privileged to be a part of this amazing ministry that is changing the lives of thousands and thousands of precious people, not only in Ukraine but also in many other countries of the world.”*

— Pastor Lyndie McCauley, Lyndie McCauley Ministries, South Africa.

*“I first heard of Pastor Sunday in May of 2000. I saw a videotape of his service and I was amazed at the freedom and simplicity this service was saturated with. Before that time, I couldn’t even imagine a church so noisy and joyful. I saw the results but, honestly, I doubted that this African was anything to go by. However, when I came to their church’s anniversary conference I was shocked again. During my two days there, I received all answers to the questions that bothered me and I realized that Pastor Sunday is one of the greatest modern ministers. When he, being as busy as he is, gave me three hours of his time I was simply captivated by his simplicity, depth and faith.*

*Pastor Sunday is an unprecedented example of a great teacher in modern Christianity. Through his ministry, I realized the essence of Christ’s teaching. And the revelation about the kingdom of God revolutionized my life. I realized that I am called to establish God’s kingdom on earth, in my city and in my country. And Apostle Sunday’s ministry became a practical example of how the*

*greatest of all revelations can become a reality, transforming the society's political and social life. I have discovered fundamental principles that are able to transform the lives of individuals as well as the life of society as a whole, through his teachings. The implementation of these principles guarantees harmony and a life full of meaning, peace and joy."*

— Pastor Peter Frose, Frankfurt, Germany.

In 2000, the Embassy of God church celebrated her 12th anniversary. Below are the words of Pastor Sunday's spiritual mentor, Apostle Ulysses Tuff, who is the founder of The Way, The Truth and The Life Christian Center, Inc., The Giver of Life Institute of Ministerial Training, The Giver of Life Missions School, The Giver of Life Christian Academy and The Giver of Life Ministerial Association in the United States of America.

*"I feel like it was just yesterday when I first came to Kyiv to support you in the glorious way, predestined and established by the heavenly trinity — the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. You and Pastor Bose answered prophetically the question asked by Jesus' disciples, "Teacher, where do you live?" Jesus answered them, "Come and see." You have made a decision to sacrifice whatever it takes to give yourselves, first to the Lord and then, to us according to the will of God (2 Cor. 8:5). Everything that the Holy Spirit desired to accomplish in you has already happened. He simply used me as a vessel, as a tool, in order to set in motion here on earth the things that He has long before predestined in heaven.*

*I believe that these twelve years which symbolize the number of eternal fullness, have brought forth quite a harvest because the great Lord has fulfilled His word and made you and Pastor Bose the people recognized all over the world.*

*The Lord Jesus has led you, Pastor Bose and the Embassy of God just like a shepherd leads his sheep so that you would become a guiding star in these last days for many who have been blinded by the god of this world or religion, so that they wouldn't see the unseen Christ (Mt. 2:2,7,9,10; Heb. 11:27).*

*I want to congratulate you on your successful labor of love in the body of Christ!"*

C. Peter Wagner , Presiding Apostle of the International Coalition of Apostles in

Colorado Springs, Colorado, was also congratulated the church at the celebration. In his address he said,

*Congratulations, Apostle Sunday, for the example you have set and for your persevering faithfulness to God. When the Embassy of God was birthed in Kiev twelve years ago, no one could have imagined that it would so quickly become one of the world's most influential churches. We live in a day when the Spirit of God is speaking to the churches about their mandate to take dominion over God's creation and to transform the societies in which they live. It would be difficult to point to a local church and its growing apostolic network of daughter churches that has had more influence on a nation than the Embassy of God has had on Ukraine. You, Sunday, are an outstanding role model for pastors all over the world who desire to see the kingdom of God penetrate their cultures. My prayer is that you will continue in humility, in holiness, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and in your God-given apostolic authority for the next years and far beyond."*

Dr. Francis Wale Oke , the Founder and President of the Sword of the Spirit Ministries in Ibadan, Nigeria, the author of numerous books and the editor-in-chief of the Sword of the Spirit magazine, also congratulated Pastor Sunday and his church. He said,

*"Greetings to Pastor Sunday, the dynamic, visionary, courageous, yet, humble leader of God's Embassy for all nations in Ukraine.*

*Greetings to the apostolic team, and the leadership of God's Embassy of the Blessed Kingdom of God for All Nations.*

*Greetings to the entire vibrant, destiny shaping God's Embassy — that has not only affected Ukraine but is affecting and shaking nations of the world.*

*You are, without any doubt a model of what the New Testament church of Jesus Christ is supposed to be — true worshippers, purpose driven, mission oriented and truly anointed of the Holy Spirit, operating in signs and wonders.*

*What God Almighty has done by your hands in the past twelve years is truly amazing. It is a clear demonstration of what God can do when His people walk in obedience under a focused, wise apostolic leadership.*

*Without any doubt, God has brought you to a glorious conclusion of the first*

*phase of your World Wide Ministries. The foundation has been truly laid in righteousness.*

*As you enter into the next phase, It shall be much more glorious than the first, for the "latter house shall be greater than that of the former, saith the lord of hosts; and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of host'" Haggai 2:8.*

*Once again, the Lord shall increase you more and more and lead you from strength to strength, and take you from glory to glory. Psalm 115:14 Psalm 84:7 II Corinthians 3:18.*

*Shalom!"*

*"I would like to express my deep gratitude to Pastor Sunday for the message he shared with us at the conference at Christian City Church in Sydney in April of 2006. I believe his message on the kingdom of God is very much needed here in Australia. Words simply fail to express the fullness of my gratefulness."*

— Daniel S. Zomerfield, Sydney, Australia.

*"I am very honored to know Sunday Adelaja as my countryman and my namesake. The Lord is using him all over the world to influence change in many lives."*

— Dr. Sunday Tom Akpan, Lagos, Nigeria.

*"I am thankful to God for such a person and minister as Pastor Sunday. He is one of many people who can confidently say, "Imitate me as I imitate Christ" (see 1 Cor. 11:1). I have decided to surrender to this call completely. The grace of the pioneer that is abundant upon him is paving the way for the Kingdom of God wherever he goes. Praise the Lord!"*

— Israel Adetokunbo Emmanuel, Pastor and publisher, London.
*"Dear brother! Thank you for all your love that you express toward us all the time!"*
— Ronke Akintunde, Great Britain.

*"I am very blessed to know Pastor Sunday. I have come to consider him a father of the Joshua generation of modern times, a true man of God whose leadership empowered by the Holy Spirit has changed many lives and impacted not only the*

*nation of Ukraine but many other nations of the world. His credibility is greatly verified by him being so down to earth in the midst of leading the largest church in Europe and I believe the Lord has raised him for such a time as this and will continue to use him mightily for the salvation of the world."*

— Pastor Suleman Manzoor, Rapha Mission, Sweden/Pakistan.

*"I was challenged by Pastor Sunday's personal and spiritual example and decided that I must either follow Christ or stop it all."*

— Toye Okanlawon, Evangelist/preacher/publisher, Lagos, Nigeria/Toronto, Canada.

*"I've known Pastor Sunday for 4 years now, since March 2003, and I've been traveling together with him extensively all over the world. I've not only heard his messages but I've seen his life in various situations, and I can say that I've never seen a Christian leader at this level having so much time and interest for all kinds of people, despite their position. That tells me that the super-star attitude among many leaders in the body of Christ is totally unnecessary. Instead of six body guards taking him out from the services he takes time to meet and minister to people in a personal way. It seems like he's interested in every person's history and destiny."*

— Pastor Christer Segerliv, Kingdom Center Church, Sweden. Yes, there is a place in his heart for everybody.

Below are Pastor's Sunday's letters to all members of the Embassy of God, to pastors, leaders, ministers and Spiritual council:

"To: *My precious and loving people of the Embassy of the Blessed Kingdom of God for All Nations*
*Oh! You are my next love after God and my family! I love you, people of the Embassy of God! To a large extent you have contributed to who Pastor Sunday is today. It is not just Pastor Sunday who has been a blessing to you; you too have made me who I am! If there were no people of the Embassy of God, there would be no Pastor Sunday. Nobody would know Pastor Sunday all over the world if not because of you.*
*Thank you for your obedience. Thank you for your following. Thank you for your teachable spirit. Thank you for your role in making our church the church it is today. My appreciation and love goes to every member of this church. I believe*

*you are the best people in the world. This is the best church in the world and the members of this church are the best. Thank you!*
*Thank you the Leaders. Thank you the Pastors. Thank you everybody who prays for me. Thank you all the prayer warriors. Thank you all the missionaries of the Embassy of God. Thank you the Pastors. Thank you all the daughter churches; thank you for everything you have been doing for me and my family. I love you all with all my heart."*

"To: Staff and Office (all the people who work, and have ever worked with Pastor Sunday)

*I want you to know that you are the people who built this ministry. It is your effort, your obedience and your willingness to follow my leadership that has given us what we have today. We are now a ministry that is known all over the world because of your sacrifice and readiness to serve. My appreciation goes to all of you. To Andrey Kuksenko, Marina Pirskaya, Vera Melnik, Rebecca, Carolyn, and all of you that have just come to join the team and to those who came earlier. I want to appreciate all of you, Nikolai my driver and the people in my security team. You are all precious to my heart, when we get to heaven, we would share this reward together. Thank you so much for who you are to me."*

"To: All our daughter churches; those born within the Embassy of God and those that joined us.

*I love you all! Thank you for all you have done and continue to do. We all will take part in God's great celebration when the Lord will reward us for our labor and for everything we did for Him. I dream and hope that all of us will receive great compliments from Jesus himself.*

*Thank you! I love you!"*
"To: The new and upcoming team of the History Makers Movement.

*I want to use this opportunity to thank all of you. I see you as the future of my ministry and the extension of the grace of God upon my life. You are the next phase of my ministry. My first phase of ministry is what happened in Ukraine, but the second phase of my ministry is what is going to happen with History Makers Movement. The future and the world is waiting for you and I know that God has brought you to me and me to you, so that we may combine our efforts and the gifts of God upon us and use it to change our world for better. I believe*

*in you and I know with God, we will leave the mark of our footprint in the history of humanity and this world will be better because of you all.*

*Thank you my friends."*
"To: The Spiritual Council of the Embassy of Blessed Kingdom of God for All Nations.

*I want you to know that without you, my dear friends and partners in the Spiritual Council, there would be nothing of what we have now. I thank, first of all, the former and the current chairman of the Council — Pastor Natalia Potopayeva and Bishop Anatoly Belonozhko respectively, as well as all members of the spiritual council. I am grateful to God for you. I want to tell you: it wasn't me who chose you, and it wasn't you who chose me, but God has chosen us all and has put us together. You are my team, and I am proud of you!*

*I greatly appreciate you for standing faithfully beside me and supporting me. Thank you for everything you did for me and for your faithful service to God and His anointed.*

*Thank you for not succumbing to temptations to rebel or to show any disloyalty. Thank you for being a worthy example of service to God to the many thousands that follow you.*

*Thank you for being with me all these years. Thank you for your dedication to the vision the Lord gave the Embassy of God.*

*I want to tell you again that I love you and adore you very much.*
*It is because of you that we have what we have today. I have no doubts that the things the Lord has already done in your lives and continues to do all around the world are the destiny that awaits each one of you, because the one who is faithful in little things will be faithful in great things, too.*
*I pray, therefore, that you all would receive your exaltation in the name of Jesus Christ! Thank you for being faithful in little things, for standing by and lifting up my hands, for being my Aarons and Hurs. I have become accomplished because of you! Be blessed!*

AFTERWARD
T

he ocean waves gently run over the sandy shores. Warm sunshine caresses the

branches of palms trees on the beaches. Beautiful buildings shine in the sun

with clean windows, shopping malls just like in Manhattan, neat roads connecting cities and villages; joyful and nicely-dressed people in the streets… This is Nigeria as seen by its son Sunday Adelaja. He will do everything he can for this dream to become a reality. Perhaps, that's why the Pastor decided that all profit from the sales of this book would go to the development of his home village. All finances that come to the "Rachel Fund" founded by Pastor Sunday will be used to serve Nigeria and Africa as a whole.

In loving memory to Rachel Adelaja, Pastor Sunday's Grandma.
Phone: +38 044 553 15 38 E-mail: info@godembassy.org
I
would like to express my gratitude to everyone who took part in creation of this book:

*Bose Adelaja*
*Alyona Dobrovolskaya*
*Lyudmila Sabatyuk*
*Svetlana Volynets*
*Irina Davidenko*
*Elena Levina*
*Tatiana Katashinskaya*
*Alexander Bondaruk*
*Marina Pirskaya*
*Carolyn Veldbloem*
*Thomas Ochu*
*Irina Krivosheina*
*Denis Sikorsky*
*Constantine Kuzov*
*Rimma Perova*
*Vlada Moskalenko*
*David Adeola*
*Bode Awolana*

and all who sent their letters of gratitude.
*With love, Pastor Sunday Adelaja*
I

n the recent years, Pastor Sunday has traveled all over the world. He has been to Europe, America, Asia, Australia… He can now be called ‘a citizen of the

world.’ In all corners of the earth, people wait for Pastor Sunday to hear God’s wisdom flowing from him, for their personal lives, ministries and for their countries.

Internationally known preachers such as T. L. Osborn, Myles Munroe, Reinhard Bonke, John C. Maxwell, John Bevere and many others treasure their friendship with Pastor Sunday. Here’s what they say about the phenomena of Pastor Sunday and the Embassy of God church.

“F ORSUCHATIMEASTHIS…”
Pastor Sunday opens the US Senate in prayer

On Monday 23rd April, 2007 Pastor Sunday Adelaja was honored with the privilege of opening the US Senate in prayer.

**OLORUNWA**
The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.
James 5: 16b

PASTOR SUNDAY’S PRAYER FOR THE U.S. SENATE *“Oh Lord of creation. We acknowledge your Lordship today, your sovereignty, love and power. We ask that you will bless the United States of America in these days of great uncertainties.*

*Bless the leaders of this great nation with the wisdom needed to lead the nation in the right direction. As leaders, we realize that there are some things we want, but do not need;*
*And some things we need but do not want. You have promised to meet our need but not our greed.*

*Help us to realize that: Our decisions have a destiny. Our choices have consequences.*
*Our path has a purpose, our faith has a foundation,*
*Our home has a hope, and our country has a cause.*
*Acknowledging the fact that as America goes, so goes our world.*
*Therefore I ask for a sweeping, weeping and reaping revival throughout this great nation!*

*May your Kingdom come and your will be done in America as it is heaven!*
*Help us to remember that America is great because America is good.*
*If America ceases to be good, it will cease to be great.*

*God of heaven, please help America to continue to be good in Jesus' name.*
*Amen."*

# Senate of the United States

Washington, D.C.

This is to certify that on Monday, April 23, 2007, the prayer at the opening of the session of the Senate was offered by:

## Reverend Sunday Adelaja

Embassy of God
P.O. Box 122, Kiev, 03055, Ukraine

Attest:

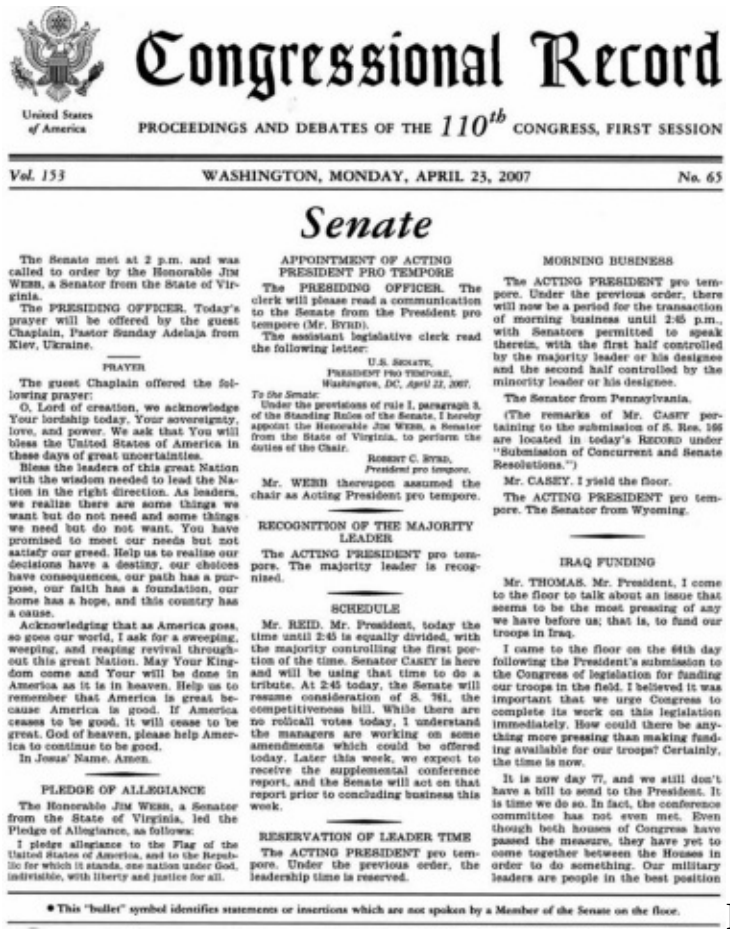
Vice President of the United States
and President of the Senate

Attest:

Secretary of the Senate

Attest:

Chaplain



# Congressional Record

United States of America

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 153 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2007 No. 65

## Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JIM WEBB, a Senator from the State of Virginia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by the guest Chaplain, Pastor Sunday Adelaja from Kiev, Ukraine.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

O, Lord of creation, we acknowledge Your lordship today, Your sovereignty, love, and power. We ask that You will bless the United States of America in these days of great uncertainties.

Bless the leaders of this great Nation with the wisdom needed to lead the Nation in the right direction. As leaders, we realize there are some things we want but do not need and some things we need but do not want. You have promised to meet our needs but not satisfy our greed. Help us to realise our decisions have a destiny, our choices have consequences, our path has a purpose, our faith has a foundation, our home has a hope, and this country has a cause.

Acknowledging that as America goes, so goes our world, I ask for a sweeping, weeping, and reaping revival throughout this great Nation. May Your Kingdom come and Your will be done in America as it is in heaven. Help us to remember that America is great because America is good. If America ceases to be good, it will cease to be great. God of heaven, please help America to continue to be good.

In Jesus' Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JIM WEBB, a Senator from the State of Virginia, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 23, 2007.

*To the Senate:*

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JIM WEBB, a Senator from the State of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
*President pro tempore.*

Mr. WEBB thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognised.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today the time until 2:45 is equally divided, with the majority controlling the first portion of the time. Senator CASEY is here and will be using that time to do a tribute. At 2:45 today, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 761, the competitiveness bill. While there are no rollcall votes today, I understand the managers are working on some amendments which could be offered today. Later this week, we expect to receive the supplemental conference report, and the Senate will act on that report prior to concluding business this week.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business until 2:45 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein, with the first half controlled by the majority leader or his designee and the second half controlled by the minority leader or his designee.

The Senator from Pennsylvania.

(The remarks of Mr. CASEY pertaining to the submission of S. Res. 166 are located in today's RECORD under "Submission of Concurrent and Senate Resolutions.")

Mr. CASEY. I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Wyoming.

IRAQ FUNDING

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I come to the floor to talk about an issue that seems to be the most pressing of any we have before us; that is, to fund our troops in Iraq.

I came to the floor on the 66th day following the President's submission to the Congress of legislation for funding our troops in the field. I believed it was important that we urge Congress to complete its work on this legislation immediately. How could there be anything more pressing than making funding available for our troops? Certainly, the time is now.

It is now day 77, and we still don't have a bill to send to the President. It is time we do so. In fact, the conference committee has not even met. Even though both houses of Congress have passed the measure, they have yet to come together between the Houses in order to do something. Our military leaders are people in the best position

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

REVIVAL IN THE UN

"The day the Holy Spirit fell on the United Nations!"

On the 23rd of August, 2007 history was rewritten when Pastor Sunday Adelaja addressed the United Nations as a representative of the Kingdom of God.

A Nigerian-born man, he came to the former Soviet Union more than 22 years ago and obeyed the voice of God to start what he then knew would one day become a key 'mega-church' for the end times: The Embassy of the Blessed Kingdom of God for all Nations.

"Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in."

Psalm 24:7 This is the scripture that Pastor Sunday championed the audience to prophesy over the nations as they held up the respective nameplates represented in the hall.

*"Let the nations open up*

*for the King of glory to enter in!"*
Breakfast meeting

It all started with a breakfast meeting in the Millennium Hotel, where TBN Russia was present to interview Pastor Sunday and Pastor Abosede Adelaja, The President of the United Nations Staff Recreation Council (UNSRC) "Christian Cultural Society" (CCS), Gary Gardner with his wife, and coordinator of this event Helene Oord with her assistant Carla Oord, who are also members of the UNSRC "CCS".

Nigerian Mission

After breakfast all the delegates proceeded to the Nigerian House, "Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations", to meet with Ambassador H.E. Mr. Felix Aniokoye. With him was Mr. Lawrence Olufemi Obisakin.

In appreciation to the invitation, Pastor Sunday commented, *"I am invited to speak at the United Nations — but first I must visit home!"*

3 SESSIONS AT THE UN:

*The first session* was an open meeting with representatives of organizations, churches and leaders from over 30 countries.

Prayers were heard that day with the clapping of hands and different tongues as the Holy Spirit fell on the people and they responded to His unction.

Pastor Sunday gave instruction for every person to pray for the country in whose seat they were sitting, holding up the nameplate of that particular country to the Lord, and pray for the doors to be opened so that there will be freedom to go in and preach the gospel.

Pastor Sunday proclaimed that the church has the answer to the question of world peace and the alleviation of global problems. "We need to be ready to collaborate with world organizations, governments, the United Nations, and other non-governmental organizations for the purposes of God in the earth." He declared.

*The second session* was a closed meeting with Mr. Kiyo Akasaka "Under-Secretary-General for Communications and Public Information" (DPI) and

others as they discussed the partnering of the worldwide church with the UN — for the relieving of global issues such as hunger, poverty, disease, global warming, energy crises, and religious and ethnic conflicts.

The Under-Secretary shared the same concerns as Pastor Sunday had for the world and mentioned that the UN has started a program to reduce extreme poverty by half with aspirations to reach this goal by 2015. The Under-Secretary-General said that everyone should be able to have access to clean water and respectable living conditions. He suggested that the Embassy of God church should submit a request for NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) status with the UN DPI, and thereby be able to work in cooperation with the UN to alleviate poverty in the world.

The church is no longer to be viewed as 'encaged' behind her 4 walls. We should be ready to partner with government organizations to resolve world problems and finally be a church *without walls* reaching out to a dying and lost world.

*In the evening session* of that day was a meeting on a much smaller scale, meant for the Ambassadors and representatives of the Missions to the UN. Here they discussed the principles and values of the Kingdom of God, and how to have lasting peace and security in the world.

Pastor Sunday honed in that ethics should be exercised to the highest level.

*"If you are not ethical as the head of your state or the place of your dominance, how do you expect your subordinates to be?" It was proposed that Pastor Sunday be invited to speak to the general assembly of the UN where all the heads of states would be present. This proposal was placed on the agenda. They finally prayed for victory over all bureaucratic and logistic questions, and against restriction of ministry in the nations of the UN.*
*August the 23rd will forever be marked in the history books of time as:*

*"THE DAY THE HOLY SPIRIT FEEL ON THE UNITED NATIONS!"*

Pastor Sunday has become the first pastor of a church to speak in the main hall of the UN. Many were surprised at the way Pastor Sunday spoke and the topics of integrity that he addressed.

Some even said, *"he spoke the way Jesus would have spoken."*

Are you ready for a CHURCH REFORMATION? Church*shift*: the new move of the church WHAT IS CHURCHSHIFT?

Church *shift* is the new *'movement'* that Pastor Sunday Adelaja has started, with its successful launching at the Synergize conference January, 2008. Church*shift* will continue to have its own annual conference every year teaching pastors and ordinary laymen the keys of church reformation. For too long the church has been in recess, losing the position that God originally intended.

Now is the time for her awakening; now is the time for her to take a stand and win back the lost — BEFORE THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST!
THE SHIFT IS HERE! Church*shift* hit bookshelves on February 8th, 2008 and made it to amazon.com's top 10 list within two days.

*Book Ratings:*
6th place among all books on the BESTSELLER'S list,
4th place on their MOVERS & SHAKER'S list,
3rd place on the HOT NEW RELEASES list, and an amazing 1st place among all Christian books!

This is truly phenomenal as there are 2 million books moving through amazon.com all the time.

Churchshift has an accompanying *WOORRKKBBOOOK* that will equip you for the reformation of your society and sphere of influence.

Available from *www.amazon.com*
and *www.churchshift.org*
WHY CHURCHSHIFT?

The fabric of American culture is in decay — evident to people from outside the US even more than those inside the nation.

Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. Isaiah 60:1

From Church *shift* book: A WORD FROM THE AUTHOR

In November, 2006, I wedged myself between the armrests of an airline seat and

settled in for the long flight back to Kiev from one of my numerous trips overseas.

Without much room to maneuver, I just leaned my head back to pray.

My prayers soon turned into meditations about where I'd just been, where I was going, and the overall state of the Church worldwide.

Suddenly, an image of the globe came to my mind. I could sense the burden God has for His Church to be reformed in order to be capable of gathering in the last harvest.

From that vision, I came to understand that God is not satisfied with the state of the modern Church. Most leaders I've met worldwide would agree that we collectively have a great deal of work left to do, regardless of the great strides we have made.

With five billion people still unsaved, we must gain ground. What struck me is that if we are to see Jesus come back any time soon, the Church must be reformed once again! What humbled me, though, was the impression that God was challenging *me* to do something about it. This was in direct conflict with where I was in my comfort zone of ministry at that time.

The challenge to play a role in the restoration of the Church reminded me of a time of prayer I had in spring of 2004. At that time, God challenged me to take responsibility for Ukraine. That experience led to the events of the Orange Revolution in the Ukraine, which I thought was the ultimate. Now, I was sensing that the victories in Ukraine had only been a preparation for this new challenge.

As I prayed about the vision over the next few months, I received clear direction on my role in this latest reformation. My first duty that became abundantly clear was that I should write a book that addresses areas where the Church must have a *SHIFT* to leave the old and bring in the new. The result is what you are holding in your hand now: CHURCH*SHIFT*.

May the Lord God of heaven use this humble work to help touch and transform His Church. I pray that the little lessons I've been taught behind the Iron Curtain of communism will be a blessing to the wider body of Christ.

It was the missionaries and their supporters, Bible providers, intercessors,

charity workers, smugglers and martyrs sent by the West who reached my family for Christ, provided water to my village in Nigeria, then gave me materials and needed support while I struggled in my Christian walk behind the Iron Curtain.

It is God's perfect plan of sowing and reaping that He would now send me to return the benefits of all He taught me while under their care.

My prayer is that every church leader, pastor or bishop will read this book and use its workbook to make a study in home groups, cells, small groups, home churches, Sunday Schools and Bible colleges.

May the lessons inside this book not be lost, but bring us all to SHIFT to help gather in the last harvest. LET THE REVOLUTION BEGIN!
*Pastor Sunday Adelaja*
WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF CHURCH*SHHIIFFT*? CHURCHSHIFT will help transform nations by introducing a new way to do church.

CHURCHSHIFT reveals how to "pastor without tears." CHURCHSHIFT helps avoid splits and division. CHURCHSHIFT changes our view of ministry.

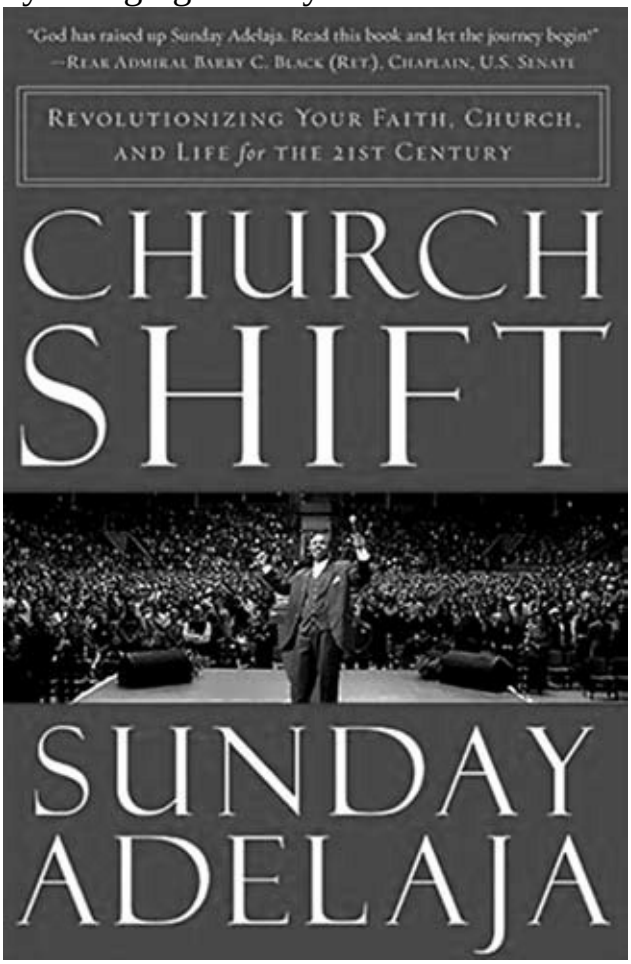
CHURCHSHIFT inspires us to believe for supernatural outcomes.
CHURCHSHIFT equips church members to impact the seven spheres of society.
CHURCHSHIFT teaches Kingdom principles for societal transformation.
CHURCHSHIFT activates the potential of the local church.
CHURCHSHIFT helps change nations by emerging from beyond the four walls of the church building. CHURCHSHIFT provides the keys for NATIONAL TRANSFORMATION!
HOW WILL CHURCH*SHHIIFFT* UNFOLD?

Pastor Sunday has invited people from all spheres of society to 'lock arms' with him in impacting their respective spheres with the Kingdom of God. His vision is to raise 1 000 HISTORY MAKERS who will host an initial 1000 breakfasts in the USA.

(To register as a History Maker, please fill in the application on *www.churchshift.org*)

Church *shift* is oriented at first reforming the churches of America, because America will set the trend for rest of the world. And as goes the church so goes the nation!

The goal of Church*shift* is to impact 10 000 churches in the USA and 100 000 churches globally.
We can change the nation
by changing the way we ‘do’ church!




If you have not yet accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, I am inviting you right now to speak to Him in prayer. God will give you true joy, peace and happiness. Only God can answer all your questions, He is the only One who can solve your problems. Live with God, have faith in God – it is true happiness.

God loves you and He is waiting for you. He needs you.

## SInner’S Prayer

*Heavenly Father! I come to You in prayer, confessing all of my sins. I believe Your Word. I believe that You accept everyone who comes to You. Lord, forgive me all my sins, have mercy on me.*

*I don’t want to live this way anymore. I want to belong to You, Jesus! Come into my heart and cleanse me. Be my Savior and my Pastor. Guide me.*

*I confess You, Jesus Christ as my Lord. I thank You that You hear my prayer and I accept my salvation by faith. I thank You, my Savior, for accepting me just as I am .*

*Amen.*

If you sincerely prayed this prayer, God heard you and forgave you all your sins. now, God is your Father, and Jesus is your Friend. read the Word, live with God and pray.

The Holy Spirit — is the third Personality of the Divine Trinity. He is the One, who the Father sent to be with His children. The Holy Spirit convicts us when we do something wrong, He guides us back to the right path. Very often we grieve Him. When we find ourselves in difficult situations, trying to sort what is right and what is wrong. He helps us by shedding His light on our situation, if we are in tune with Him. The Holy Spirit will teach you, how to distinguish between right and wrong doctrines. He will help you to find a church, where Jesus Christ is exalted.

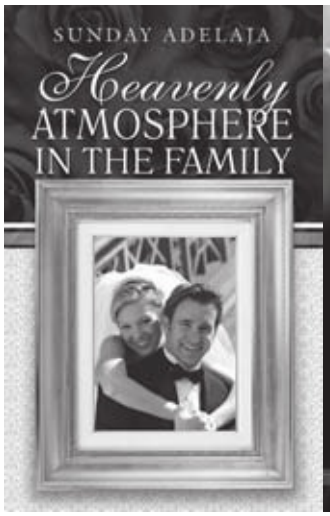
## Prayer FOr baPTISm In THe HOLy SPIrIT

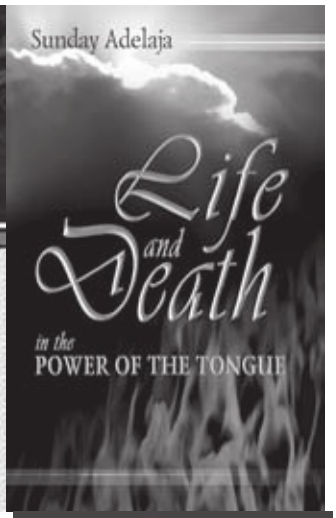
*Now, I am bornagain. I am a Christian. I am a child of the Almighty God! I am saved! Lord, You said in your Word:* **“If ye then, being evil, know how to give gifts unto your children: how much more shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?”***(Luke 11:13). I plead with You, Lord fill me with the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit rise up in me, when I praise You. I believe that I will speak in an unknown language.*

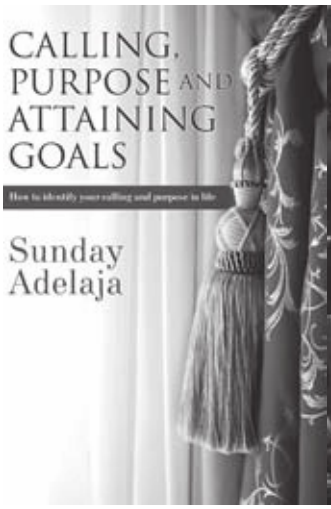
*Amen.*

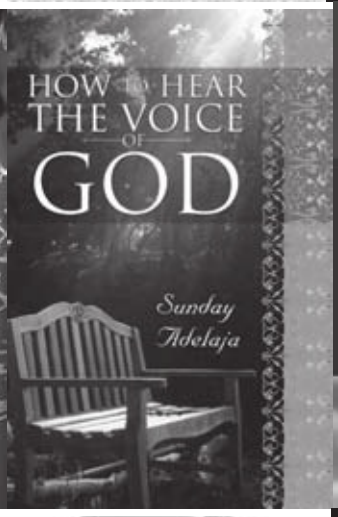
## We WOuLD LIke TO reCOmmenD He FOLLOWInG bOOkS:

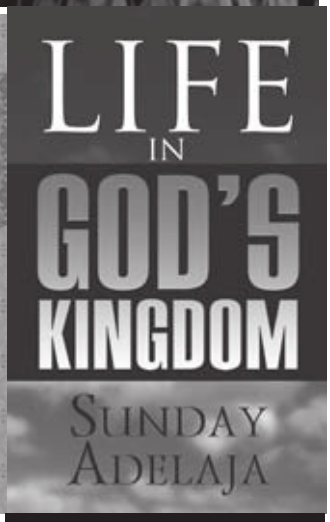

Sunday Adelaja
ACCESSING DIVINE
WISDOM
WISDOM IS THE KEY
TO REIGNING ON EARTH

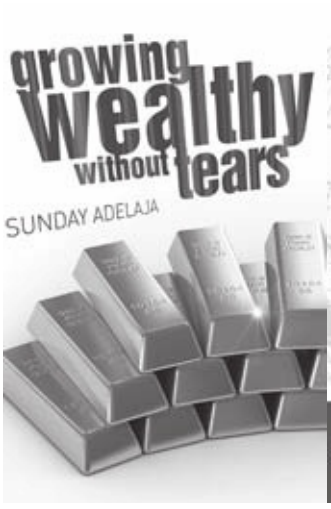

SUNDAY ADELAJA
Heavenly
ATMOSPHERE
IN THE FAMILY

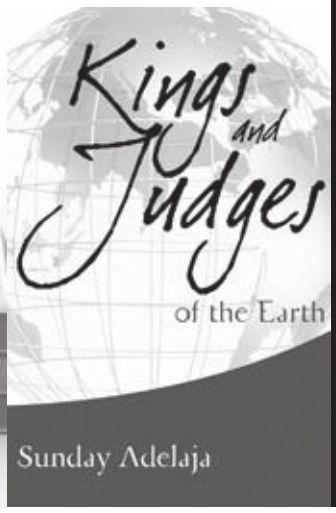

Sunday Adelaja
Life
and
Death
in the
POWER OF THE TONGUE

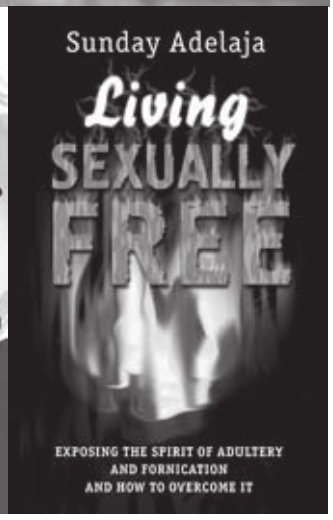

CALLING,
PURPOSE AND
ATTAINING
GOALS
Sunday
Adelaja

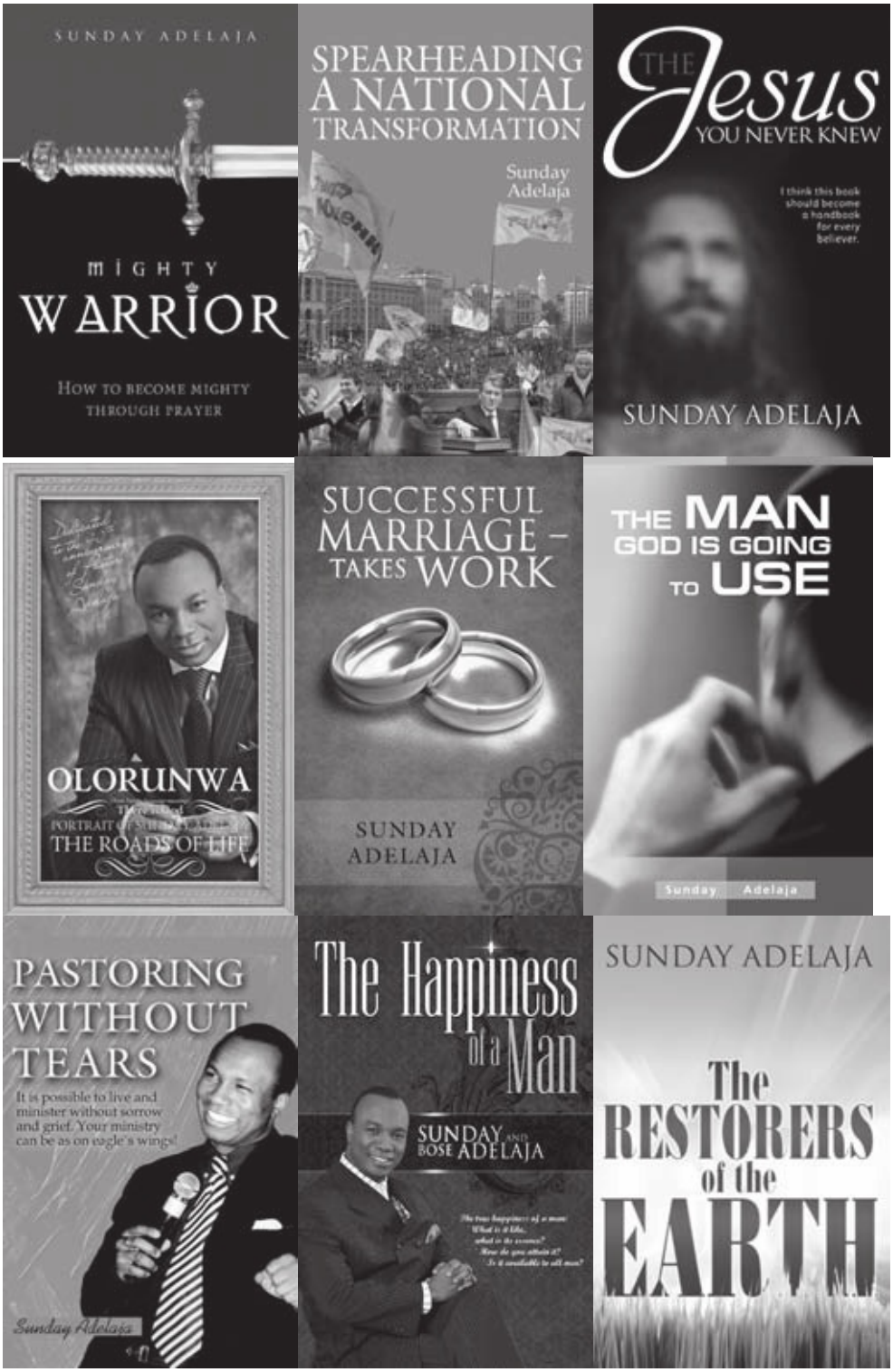

HOW TO HEAR
THE VOICE
OF
GOD
Sunday
Adelaja

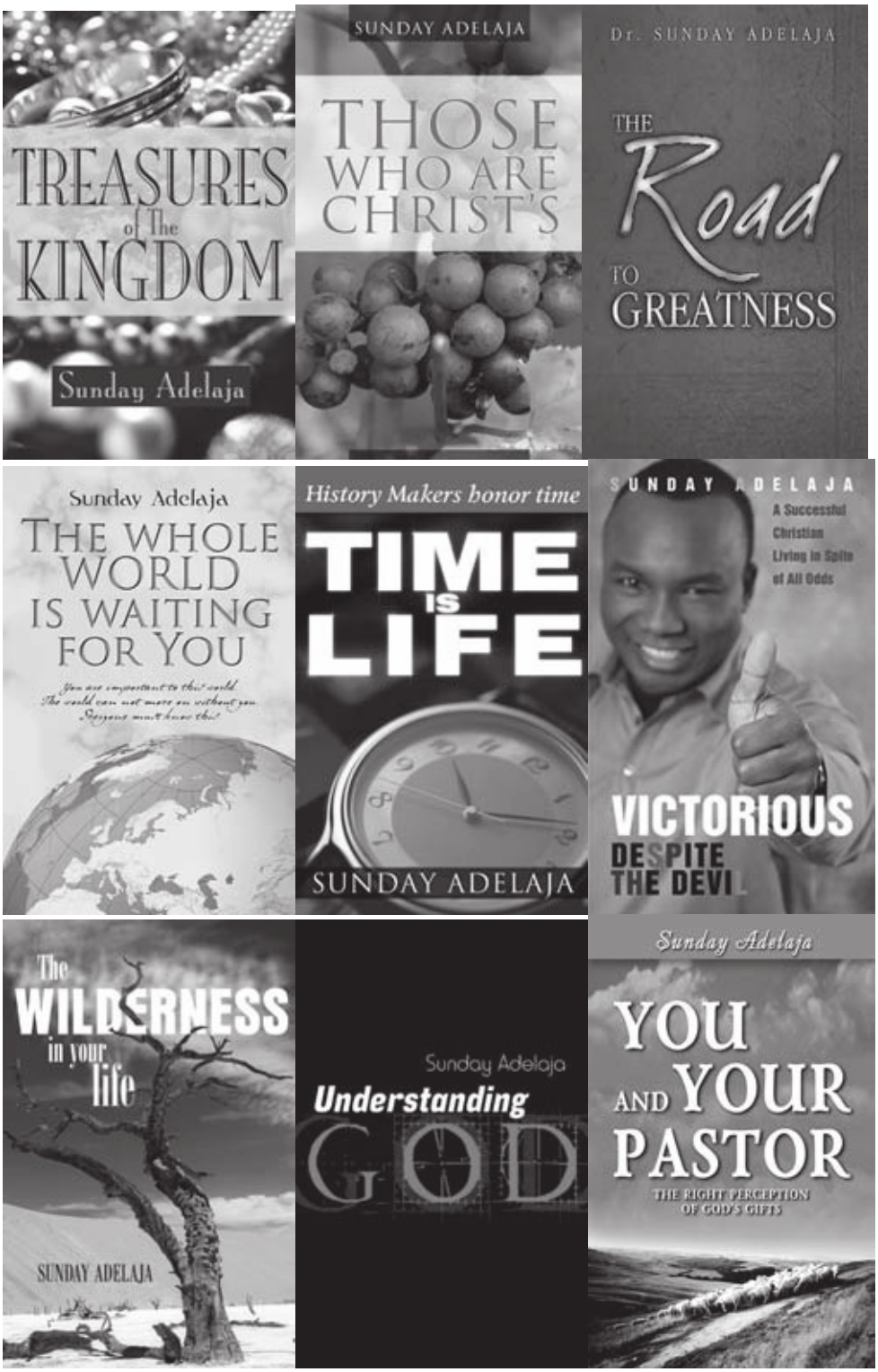

LIFE
IN
GOD'S
KINGDOM
SUNDAY
ADELAJA


growing
wealthy
without
tears
SUNDAY ADELAJA


Kings
and
Judges
of the Earth
Sunday Adelaja


Sunday Adelaja
Living
SEXUALLY
FREE
EXPOSING THE SPIRIT OF ADULTERY
AND FORNICATION
AND HOW TO OVERCOME IT


SUNDAY ADELAJA
MIGHTY
WARRIOR
HOW TO BECOME MIGHTY THROUGH PRAYER
SPEARHEADING A NATIONAL TRANSFORMATION
Sunday Adelaja
THE Jesus YOU NEVER KNEW
I think this book should become a handbook for every believer.
SUNDAY ADELAJA
OLORUNWA
THE ROADS OF LIFE
SUCCESSFUL MARRIAGE – TAKES WORK
SUNDAY ADELAJA
THE MAN GOD IS GOING TO USE
Sunday Adelaja
PASTORING WITHOUT TEARS
It is possible to live and minister without sorrow and grief. Your ministry can be as on eagle's wings!
Sunday Adelaja
The Happiness of a Man
SUNDAY AND BOSE ADELAJA
SUNDAY ADELAJA
The RESTORERS of the EARTH




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