

DAUGHTERS OF DESTINY

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. 2 Corinthians 4:7

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DAUGHTERS OF DESTINY
DAY OUT IN
UNITED KINGDOM &
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND.

THE CHRISTIAN LADY
CHRISTIAN LADY
& HER EMOTIONS

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GODLY CHILDREN
AMIDST CRISIS

SAFE
MOTHERHOOD

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TOYIN OKE



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Daughters of Destiny Day Out in **UNITED KINGDOM & IRELAND**

Daughters of Destiny Day Out is a programme that was started by Evangelist Toyin Eso-Fatunsin as inspired by God. A time of fellowship and sharing by members of the group on Facebook in a designated location. In 2012, four of such meetings were held in United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland at different time of the year with the initiator, ministering in person alongside other ministers. Testimonies abound in various locations to the glory of God.

UNITED KINGDOM



Daughters of Destiny Day Out in Glasgow, Scotland United Kingdom. Saturday June 30, 2012, the meeting was held in Christ Apostolic Church House of Prayer, Glasgow. Mrs. Adenike Aje hosted the event back up with the women in the church. Members of the group came from different parts of Scotland and also some invited guests as well.

REP. OF IRELAND



Daughters of Destiny Evening of Encounter in Republic of Ireland August 19, 2012. Glory be to God for a successful meeting. Testimonies abound on how the sisters encounter God and were refreshed in his presence. **Thanks to Sister Bolatito Caroline Peter, Mary Offeyi Denobis, Omo Imoh for hosting the meeting. Glory Be To God!**

Daughters of Destiny

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About Us

The Daughters of Destiny is an interdenominational forum for sisters. It is aimed at bringing out God's ultimate essence for them. Daughters of Destiny magazine features true-life stories of ladies that have gone through various situations and how they handled them. It also includes powerful messages, practical talks, Singles In Diaspora, Health articles, Movies Show Reel and lots more. All is aimed at blessing the lives of ladies.

Your Sister

Oluwatoyin Eso - Fatunsin

Editor - In - Chief. DOD

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My Take **God's Glory**

I am pleased to welcome you to the fourth edition of the DAUGHTERS OF DESTINY MAGAZINE. Though it took a while but thank God; it's here at last!

In this edition, various articles have been put together to bless you by women of destiny - singles and married. We have two new columns "THE FILMMAKER" which is a form of a diary of a female filmmaker; it also features pictures and glimpse into what happen on movie locations. This edition of Celebrate Jesus features Sister Toyin Oke, a versatile Drama minister, filmmaker and a Christian actress.

The second Column is "PASTOR'S WIVES IN DIASOPORA", a column that talks about the challenges and roles of pastor's wives in diaspora. This edition features Pastor Loveth Isibor of International Christian Center, Nijmegen, Netherlands.

We also have some news and events updates for you in pictures and we also celebrate with Evangelist Mike & Gloria Bamiloje, my spiritual parents on the occasion of their 25th wedding anniversary.

We sincerely pray that these articles and messages bless you. We welcome contributions, comments and testimonies from single and married women.

I would like to thank all our columnists and contributors who took time out of their busy schedules to write.

Sit back and enjoy this edition. Happy reading!

God bless you all.

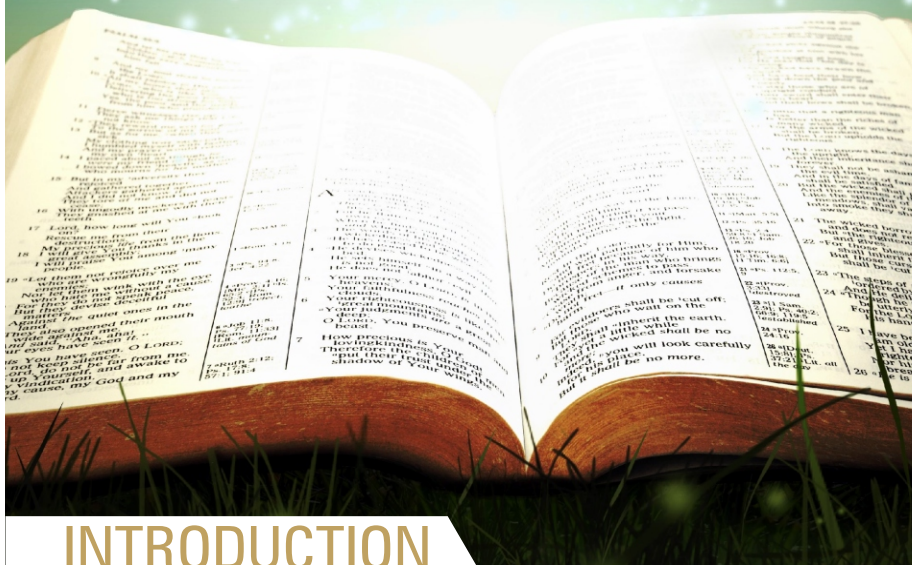
Oluwatoyin Eso-Fatunsin.

Editor-in Chief.

Happy Reading



WORD *for* TODAY



INTRODUCTION

You are Unique

To be unique is to be highly unusual and rare but not the single instance; single one of its kind; radically distinctive and without equal. What a grace to be without equal and to be outstanding among others. Out of the creature and creations of God, man was unique. He was given what the other creatures did not have; dominion, authority and power. He was made in the very image of God. What an awesome image (Genesis 1:27). He was made in the likeness of God himself!

After God made man, he saw a need in this unique creature of his, and he said "It is not good for man to be alone....Genesis 2:18-24. God made another distinct being out of the man; a woman, and she was called a help-meet. She was created to fulfill a purpose, to fill and occupy a space that only she can fill. Women are unique and also are different from one another; every woman is created with a general purpose and a more specific purpose. Every woman has basically the same organs, system and features but yet is distinct in size, color, age, geographical location, educational career and most importantly in purpose. Every girl child is a potential woman with unique abilities, purpose and assignment.

The understanding of our individual purposes knocks out envy, strife, comparisons and competition especially as we get busy fulfilling our individual callings. The bible has several accounts of women who were so unique in their own time in purpose. They went from being ordinary biologically shaped woman to being distinct. They discovered their unique purposes among other women and fulfilled it. We shall consider three of such women in the bible and their common features and uniqueness in fulfilling purpose.

Case study: Abishag, Esther and Mary the mother of Jesus.

Common features:

1. They were beautiful young virgins as is the standard of God for single, unmarried women.
2. They were all full grown females with developed biological features.
3. Their stories were told in different geographical locations and accounts.
4. They were chosen and favored in their own time.

Uniqueness:

Their assignment, purpose and callings were different and unique in themselves. It is not enough to be a woman, discovering purpose and fulfilling it makes unique women.

Case 1: Abishag 1 Kings 1: 1-4

Abishag was sought out of many beautiful young virgins in Israel for powerful King David in his old age. What an honor and a privilege it was for Abishag to have King David; a man after God's own heart.

What was Abishag's assignment in King's David's life? She was to keep him warm physically. Looking at it from the physical point of view, any woman can keep a man warm. Although King David had many wives, none was chosen to fulfill this purpose except the young beautiful Abishag. What qualified Abishag was not her virginity, as every unmarried girl in Israel under the law of God was supposed to be a virgin. Her election was beyond her virginity, character or beauty. Her election by the favour of God is what distinct her. May his favour seek you out today in Jesus name. Amen.

Although Abishag was a young and beautiful virgin, the bible records that the King had no sexual relationship with her. So how and what did she do to keep him warm? She served and cared for him. She was simply a warm woman! Are you warm? Are your words and actions toward fellow women warm? Are you warm towards sinners showing them the way to Calvary or are you cold, mocking and chasing them to hell fire? I perceive Abishag as a young lady who went beyond the physical

warmth ministering to the needs of the King, praying and lifting him up before the God of Israel.

Married sisters are you keeping your husband and home warm physically and spiritually? A wise woman will lift up her husband and family in prayers every day. A warm woman will be warm to in-laws, friends, colleagues and all around. She will be pleasant to be with just like Abishag was, so much so that her physical presence without sexual relations gave King David the warmth he needed.

Single sisters, can you relate with the opposite sex without compromising your stand with them? If you have compromised before now, Jesus is waiting to restore you, he is a God of a second chance and there is a glory of a second virginity. Come to him and confess and he will not condemn you. Don't forget that God will judge all sins and he frowns at such sin as fornication; take advantage of mercy now that it is available. God is a God of many chances, but don't take his grace for granted. He is both the lamb and the Lion, be warned! Abishag was unique, warm and she did well out of it. Sisters, discover God's purpose, stand out from the crowd!

You are unique!

Case 2: Esther- Esther 4: 4-17 (Mission: A race)

The story of Esther becoming a queen is a very familiar one. She was simply favoured among all the virgins that were selected for a night with the great King Xerxes. Of all the virgins that were prepared for a year in place of Queen Vashti, she was chosen. Just like Abishag, she was simply favoured by God. When the favour of God comes upon a woman and she is chosen for a noble task where others who are more qualified are disqualified, it is simply for a purpose. No child of God is put in a place, position, geographical location, office, rank etc. without a purpose. What makes such a child of God unique and distinct in such place of honor is discovering the purpose of being there and fulfilling it.

Esther discovered her uniqueness when she got to the throne. No one was permitted to enter the inner court where the king sat except on invitation, yet she was favored again as the king held out the scepter to her. She would not have risked her life and security but she discovered her purpose in her position. She was there for such a time as that when her entire race was in danger. Esther could act because she discovered her purpose. It is impossible to stand out of the crowd and be fulfilled without first discovering who you are, your uniqueness and purpose in life. Many have missed the opportunity to stand out and be unique because they failed to discover purpose. Being alive today is for a purpose. Reading this as well is for a purpose. Discover your purpose as a woman. It is beyond the general idea of 'a woman's place is in the kitchen, she is meant

to get married and have children'. The life of a woman is full of purpose, discover yours today and stand out from the crowd.-

Case 3: Mary, the mother of Jesus- Luke 1:28-33, 39-45, 56

Mary, the mother of Jesus was not the only virgin in Israel at the time Jesus Christ was to be conceived and born physically on earth; she was just like the other two young women in our study favoured by God. She was specially favoured as there are different levels of favour; Mary was specially favoured. The favour she received was superior to that received by the other two ladies.

Mary's unique assignment was to conceive, birth, and raise our Lord Jesus Christ; the savior of the world. She carried out the assignment with godly wisdom treasuring all the revelations she received from her angelic visitations in her heart. She had a large heart and she feared the Lord. Psalms 25:14...**the secrets of the Lord are with them that fear him.** It is a general knowledge that women talk more than men do. However, many

have lost their uniqueness and purpose through careless talks and unwise associations. Mary went to visit her cousin Elizabeth and she got more insight and revelation into the unique baby she was carrying in her womb, she stayed there for three months before going back to her home lifted and encouraged. Who are your friends and associates? Are they women of purpose? Are they unique and already fulfilling the purpose of God for their lives? Are they women that will encourage you to be all that the Lord wants you to be?

It is important to relate closely with women of purpose who will challenge you with their lifestyles to pursue and fulfill your purpose in life. Mary gave birth to Jesus Christ, nursed, cared and prayed for him day and night till the purpose of God was established through the death and resurrection of the Lord. What a unique woman! You too can stand out from the crowd today by discovering your purpose through prayers, bible study, meditation, and constant, personal fellowship with God. As you wait patiently on him, his purpose will be expressed in you.

You can't be unique for God without him. If you are yet to know and accept Jesus as your personal Lord and Saviour, confess and repent of your sins. **'for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God ..Romans 3:23.** Invite Jesus into your heart as your personal Lord and Saviour, read the Bible and pray every day, join a bible believing Church to grow more in the knowledge of Christ and to hold fast to the confession of your faith. Hold fast to Jesus till the very end and it shall be well with you. You will fulfill your purpose in Jesus name! Amen.

God bless you. **Oluwatoyin Eso-Fatunsin.**



A Royal Exchange

It's been six long days of wining, dining, and feasting! The seventh day was finally here and the King's heart was so merry. It was a perfect time to bring forth the beautiful queen; a perfect time to cause the young men of the land to see and desire royalty, beauty and splendor, that time when the older women of the land gazed upon their goddess with pleasure and satisfaction, while the young ones stared with silent envy, admiration and desires. At the King's commandment, all seven chamberlains marched out to bring the one they adored. **Esther 1:11 To bring Vashti the queen before the king with the crown royal, to shew the people and the princes her beauty: for she was fair to look on.**

However, in the agenda of God, it was the perfect time as well for a royal exchange. It was a time for God to substitute beauty for BEAUTY! The march of the seven chamberlains to get the queen was a march of transition between the fading and the unfading. It was a perfect time to bring in some perfection!

Most of us can tell the story verbatim of how the Queen; Vashti, refused to appear before the King and was replaced by Esther. I have however found myself wondering if that was the first time Queen Vashti was called by the king, and had refused to appear, or if she had continuously made a practice of disobedience and rebellion in her heart till she had no more regard for the King (her husband) even before His subjects.

So what was God substituting? What was transitioning here?

What separated one woman from the other?

1. Purpose: Vashti was in the palace, she was just another beautiful Queen in Babylon, a party freak; a feaster. Esther on the other hand was

a young lady who had a mentor (Mordecai), an identity and a purpose. Where do you fit lady? **Esther 4: 14....: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?** God was substituting based

on His own calendar and understanding of times aimlessness for purpose, vanities for Godliness, and a lack of God for Godliness.

2. Submission: Women who make a difference in the world do not break the spiritual law of submission even to the seeming 'insignificant chamberlain'. God respects order!

Esther 1:12 But the queen Vashti refused to come at the king's commandment by his chamberlains:

Esther 2: 15 ...she (Esther) required nothing

but what Hegai the king's chamberlain, the keeper of the women, appointed.

There is a sharp contrast set here by these two women; Esther and Vashti in their response to constituted authority.

3. Level of beauty: Definitely, this is not about the difference between the beauty and the beast! Vashti was a beautiful and Esther was also but she had more than a fading beauty; she was beautiful on the inside also; she was adorned with the unfading beauty of a meek and a quiet spirit. She was a regular shopper at the 'FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT STORES'. Her best girlfriend was Mrs Proverb 31, and her most valuable beauty tip was; **1Peter 3: 6 Cultivate inner beauty, the gentle, gracious kind that God delights in. The holy women of old were beautiful before God that way ... (Message)**

4. Grace and Favour: In the New Testament, one major revelation of Christ is Grace and Truth (John 1:14). Esther obtained the favour of the King and His Grace. God was substituting merits, qualifications, physical criteria etc for one major thing_ GRACE. All of the ladies in the contest against Esther had beauty and most of the 'right' conditions just like queen Vashti did, but only one obtained favor and GRACE. Esther may not have qualified by her lineage so much that her



A Royal Exchange



Jesus made the ultimate exchange of all ages for us that we all may be able to stand boldly before Him as a chosen generation and royalty (1 Peter 2: 9). He is our perfect example and He displayed all the attributes discussed above; He understood his purpose, He walked in submission to God His Father and did not think equality as something to contend for, He was reviled and spoke not a word; beautiful in words and deeds, and He was the revelation of Grace and truth.

uncle had to tell her to keep it a secret but GRACE qualified her! The Grace of God takes to where qualifications do not. All of the events of that day may pass as a mere palace drama to you but it is wisdom to see the all-knowing God at work in this (Romans 8:28). God did a quick work of righteousness because there was a time; a season He saw ahead and Vashti was too unequipped to handle it. The assignment; the salvation of the Jews from complete death (Esther 3:13) was so important to God and will even matter in the unfolding plan of salvation that God will not just sit and play 'boss man'. He needed a prepared vessel; there was the need for a transition!

At the search announced by the King Ahasuerus in the kingdom for the next royal queen, one woman was found worthy to answer that call; Esther. When God needs to display your workmanship, will you be prepared? **2TiMOTHY2:15 Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needed not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.**

Are you cleaning your vessel and preparing it for use or is it just being abandoned to gather the 'dust' of the age?

The house of God is just like that Royal palace filled with people who are growing in kingdom virtues like Esther, and some others who completely do not care about it. Where do you fit? Vashti was replaced. Will King Jesus have to announce a search for your duty post to be occupied because of your own willful carelessness?

It is important however to know that this is far from the Lord's desire because He made **the ultimate ROYAL EXCHANGE.** **2Corinthians 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.**

Beautiful one, in an age where high-mindedness against God and His ways increase there is still a remnant of women who are walking in the understanding that they were kept for a time like this. You are royalty and thrones are made for duties; follow the King as your perfect example and let Him show you how to occupy your position! If you are yet to understand purpose, ask Him to show you and to prepare you for that which He has prepared for you. Grace is available for us sisters!



Why I Am Me

Margret Akinwande

Many times we wonder why people act the way they do or why they do what they do. Individuals were born with temperaments which is their total make up. These temperaments are often classified into FOUR which are PHLEGMATIC, CHOLERIC, SANGUINE and MELANCHOLIC. We possess more than one but only ONE is dominant.

1. Sister Phoebe Phlegmatic is a quiet easy going person. She is a bit shy and will never push herself or willingly volunteer herself, but if asked or picked for anything, she does it to the utmost best. She is a perfectionist, she make sure things are presented at their best. She is a great team worker and the most faithful friend one could ever have. She is a very sensitive sister and craves approval. To accomplish her God given ministry, she needs a little push.

2. Sister Chloe Choleric is an outgoing, and very firm person. She takes charge of situations when the need arises. She is a natural born leader. She hardly needs people around her to succeed, because she can do things when no one is interested or when there is no support. She is a dare devil who is not afraid of anything or anybody, even Satan is afraid of her. She has no time for fun or silly jokes, she is always serious and she hardly shows her emotions. She can be proud and care little for People. Over all, she can take territories and mountains singlehandedly. She is a sister of great faith.

3. Sister Sarah Sanguine is a friendly, fun loving person.

She laughs a lot and hardly takes things seriously. She is a bit lazy and hardly finishes a job. She loves to party and can talk from morning till evening. She loves to share and listen because she is never in a hurry. She makes friends easily and she can lose them easily because of her forgetfulness. Sister Sarah doesn't normally suffer serious sickness because of her loving laughing nature. She is not so reliable because she forgets easily and doesn't take things seriously. She craves attention and she cries a lot.

4. Sister Melanie Melancholy is a quiet and lonely person. She always wants to be alone and will have nothing to do with crowds. She never sees the sun shining but the rain falling and sky full of dark clouds. She grumbles and complains at the slightest things. Despite the blessings around her, she complains about what she does not have. She is an easy going person and you can live with her for many years without any trouble because she keeps to herself. She keeps what is entrusted to her care with diligence and will ensure you meet your things the way you left them.

These temperaments have their strength and weaknesses. When we give all to Jesus, He works on our weaknesses and makes us stronger and profitable to His kingdom. Apostle Paul was CHOLERIC Phlegmatic. When he allowed God in, his weaknesses were taken care off. Apostle Peter was a CHOLERIC Melancholy but after the Pentecost, he became so useful. We need to let go and let God, also we need to understand one another and accept each other to build the kingdom. Stop wishing others will be like you because God Created diversities.





God Uses What You Have

Glory to God Almighty the Father of Light, and greetings to you precious daughter of destiny. In this edition, we will focus on God using what you have.

God gave his only begotten to die for us. He let go of the son he cherished so that we will not perish. He made an eternal investment in the blood to buy us back to God.

'For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life'. John 3:16.

He also is constantly in search of available vessels that are willing to give their all in order that they may lay hold of all of Him. He has need of that very thing you cherish so that he can give you what will not perish. God gave his best for us; there should also be nothing too valuable for us to give back to the Lord.

You are not on this planet earth by mistake. Before you were conceived the Lord knew you and he has a perfect plan for your life. For that plan to come to pass though sisters, we have a part to play. God unveils His plans to us in continuous steps and processes as we work with Him and in Him. These processes of God in us need a deliberate submission of our all and our will to God else we may either never start to surrender to it, or we may delay it so much by not doing our own part. Many singles get too anxious and impatient with God and His processes. They desire so much speed based on their own human calendar that they do not wait to accept the will of God for their lives and they choose to look for alternatives.

These alternatives though they may look good, will never be God's best for them for not all that glitters is genuine gold. He wants you to go through the different process of his will so that you will be ready for the task when it is the appointed time for it. No soldier goes to the battle front without the normal process of training.

It's a huge but worthwhile sacrifice to give what you have totally to God to use. Our God is not wicked but He sometimes needs to get what we have in order to give us what He has for us. The widow of Zarephath in 1st Kings 17:7-16 gave her last meal to

Prophet Elijah and she never went hungry again. In 1st Samuel 1:24-28, Hannah gave Samuel back to the

lord and God gave her five more children. Abraham was ready to sacrifice his only son Isaac because he knew the child was the Lord's, and in turn God made him the father of nations. Mary allowed the Lord to take over the process in her life and



said 'be it unto me according to your word' and her womb was used to carry the savior of the world; Jesus. What a privilege!

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y that she didn't struggle with God even though her process was going to be impossible to believe and explain; a **pregnant virgin**. If she was hardened against it, she would have been replaced. Judas Iscariot was and likewise was Vashti. I pray you will not be replaced in Jesus name.

When Moses died, Joshua took over the role of leadership. He ordered his people to cross over the Jordan River and claim the land as he was instructed by God. They were in the plan of God for their lives although still going through the process. In Joshua 2: 1-2, Joshua sent spies secretly to spy Jericho. It was a task and the Lord made use of a prostitute to house and keep them away from the King. Do you know that God is not partial in His plans; women just like men always have their own strategic part to play for God's plans to be fulfilled? Eve was in the plan of God as a help, though she disobeyed and didn't fulfill the plan of God. Mary however fulfilled her part in the plan of redemption. God is still searching for those who will fit into his plan in this age as well.

Why will God use a prostitute? 1st Corinthians 1:27 says **"But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty"**

Is it possible that in the whole land of Jericho there was not a righteous woman who would have housed them? It was a norm for Rahab though as a prostitute, to welcome men into her house. She welcomed the spies as usual but that started a turnaround in her life and generation. She realized that the men were different from those with whom she committed sexual sins. She saw that they were renewed, God fearing and knew their God. They were different men on a purpose!

In Joshua 2:4- 11, it's obvious that Rahab was industrious apart from being a prostitute; she was hard working like the Proverbs 31 woman. She had stalks of flax that she spread on thereof to dry from which people made linen and a rope. Underneath this, she hid the spies in faith of their God, from the judgment of the King and her own people. She also specialized in red, just like Lydia (Acts 16:14); a seller of purple. Rahab used her cunning nature to save her family and generation in Joshua 2:11-14. Her house was well situated on the walls that she could easily let down the men with a rope. I imagine that she must have let some other men down with that rope before in her escapades because she was so sure that the rope will not break as they went down the window. Eventually, that same rope was to be used as a sign on her window to save her and her family (Joshua 2:21, 6:17-25).

Her lifestyle was a life of exchange; she rendered her services in exchange for gains. However at this point, her eyes were opened to see. She was asking for an exchange not in monetary terms but in something more valuable; preservation of life. She asked them for their kindness to her family in exchange for her kindness to them. She knew that money will not help her and she put faith in action in her own little way; she risked her life for them. By her faith (Hebrews 11:3) in this God whom she already heard so much of, she was considered righteous (James 2:25). Her works of faith saved her and her family alone in the whole land and she moved out to live with the Israelites after the fall of Jericho.

Why a Rope/Cord? It seemed so insignificant but that was her own tool which she made available to God. God had a plan and she played her part in seeing its fulfillment even though she did not understand it completely. She took the first step by using the rope for the salvation of the spies. The same rope which she used to deliver the messengers was used for the deliverance of her and her family. Rahab's red rope was a symbol of faith and redemption through his blood. God made use of a rope, just like He did an ass (Number 22:28), so there is no substance in your life that God can't use. If God can use a prostitute he can use you, you are never too much of a mess for the Lord.

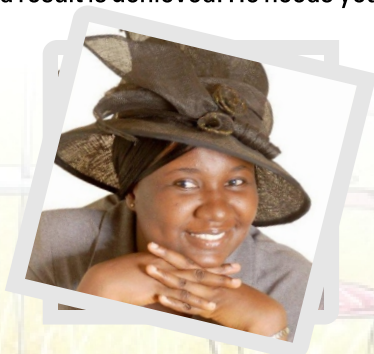


The Lord needs you because when you give yourself, then He can use your talents and the abilities in you that you are yet to discover. By the time you are able to surrender your all as a single sister whenever he wants it, it will be so easy to do the same as a wife and mother. It will be so easy to be sacrificial to your husband and children in the future.

Your life will be a perfect example of Christ at home, in the church, at work and anywhere you go because all men will see Christ in you. You are still a work in progress. The Lord is still perfecting his work in your life, and at different points in your own unique process, you will have to hand over something to the lord. For Mary it was her womb, for Hannah it was Samuel, the Widow of Zarephath; her last meal, Joseph; his comfort zone, Rahab though a prostitute; her house and rope, Peter; his boat, Abraham; his kindred and for Jesus; His life. NONE of all these regretted their decisions and at the end of the process God gave them what was far greater than what they gave him as reasonable service and an act of worship. (Romans 12:1-2).

Sister, are you struggling with God? Are you constantly exalting your own agenda above God's? It is time to start trusting God for He has plans of good and not evil for you to give you an expected end (Jeremiah 29:11). Allow him to direct your path as stated in Proverbs 3:5-end. Do not refuse or stop the process before the end result is achieved. He needs you!

STAY BLESSED.
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Bola Folakemi Praise
Lead Worship



1. Full name:

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12th June.

3. Hobbies:

Reading

4. Hometown:

Nigerian

5. Ministry/group name

The Pathfinders (Pneuma Force Productions)

6. Educational background

B.A.Ed. Language Arts English at University of Ilorin

7. Background- what was your growing up like?

A Christian background, it was good and interesting. My father was a strict man, yet he was accommodating.

8. Acting, how did you get into it?

I started acting and taking major roles right from my primary school. I won the award of best actress at my Department in the College of Education and I started doing Evangelical Drama at a Gospel Group in Oritamefa Baptist Church. I had my first film with the group but my second was with Mount Zion Faith Ministries titled 'AGBARA NLA' meaning 'the ultimate power'. The Lord used it to shoot me into limelight.

9. What was your first experience on film location as a Christian actress? Details of the movie, the year and your experience please

It was a little bit stressful yet very fulfilling. Being a novice had its shortcoming then. Nevertheless, to God be the Glory. The title of the film was 'THE RESCUE' and it was Shot around 1993/94.

10. What is the secret behind your adaptability to different types of role in movies?

It's God's gifts in me. I only need the help of the Holy Spirit To use it appropriately.

Celebrate Jesus



Oluwatoyin Anne

Oke

11. Mention some of the movies you have featured in?

Over hundred films and some of them are listed below

- The Rescue
- AgbaraNla
- Back to Babylon
- Iji Aye
- Blood Covenant
- Seeds of Lucifer
- God's People
- Echoes of Mercy
- The Marks etc.

12. As an actor/producer, what does it take to make a powerful movie that will be a great blessing?

- i) Stay in God's plan
- ii) Be inspired by God
- iii) Pray about it
- iv) Let your message be relevant to mankind
- v) Let salvation thrust be straightforward, let the occurrences be real and natural to certain extent, create a little mystery and make the resolution clear.
- vi) Take good care of your crew and cast and give God all the glory.

13. Movies are make-believe? What is the difference between Make-believe and reality?

It depends on the source and the intent, Eccl.1:9b. One thing is certain, it is either it has happened or is happening or About to happen. The bottom line in Evangelical Drama is that God is speaking to warn, rebuke, admonish, encourage, empower and to give solution to life's conflicts.



14. Are Christian films real?

Like I have said above, to my own knowledge, they are real.

15. Is there joy in acting for Christ? Is it fulfilling, rewarding and encouraging?

Yes and you have said it all it is fulfilling, rewarding and encouraging

16. In the early 90's you featured in the Mount Zion Television Series Agbara Nla. How do you react when people call you a particular character name in a movie you featured especially if it is a negative role?

It was a bit tiresome back then probably because I was yet to master the positives and negatives of fame. However, God has supplied the grace to cope with it. Also, having parents in the Drama World; Evangelist and Lady Evangelist Mike Bamiloye whose prayer coverage cannot be overemphasized has been a huge help.

17. Final word for daughters of destiny

The harvest is plenteous but the laborers are few. Contribute to divine economy by laying down your talents and gifts for Christ Jesus, you shall fulfill destiny in Jesus name Amen.





PARENTING IN DIASPORA

Greetings to all reading this in Jesus name. It is very glaring these days that raising up godly children in the various places where we reside has become a great challenge and many parents have failed in this aspect. The life of Moses' mother and how she was able to save her son from the impending danger and crisis will be considered here. It has repeatedly been said and still needs to be said that parenting children is a spiritual thing so it must be viewed in a spiritual way.

Exodus 2: 1-10 *And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi.*

2 And the women conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months.

3 And when she could no longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink.

4 And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.

5 And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it.

6 And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, this is one of the Hebrews' children.

7 Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?

8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child's mother.

9 And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and nurses it

for me, and I will give thee thy wages. And the woman took the child, and nursed it.

10 And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses: and she said, because I drew him out of the water.

Just as we are faced with many challenges as to how to raise our children in Diaspora, Jochebed was also faced with a similar challenge but did not give up instead gave all that was needed in saving her son from the crisis created by Pharaoh. Certain laws in the environment where we reside today favour sparing the rod and spoiling the child. There are also numerous activities that go on in schools at all levels of education which are ungodly and promote all sorts of wickedness and abomination. As parents how do we deal with these and bring out the best in our children? The following points shall be considered based on the bible passage above as it relates to Jochebed.

Having a relationship with God

Jochebed was a daughter of Levi. Who are the Levites? They are the descendants of Levi of the tribe of Israel; they are set apart for the duties of the sanctuary service as priests. In other words they are set apart for God's use, they are His ministers and so they know Him so well.

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Letting Go... Part 2

Continued from last Issue

Story by AbimbolaFayokun.

Judith was shivering and shaking all over with stream of tears running down her eyes which did not bother him as he undressed her and drove himself into her. After he was done, he jeered at her and left the room. Judith cried out in pain. She looked down on her bed and saw blood; fear and shame came all over her. She was scared and terrified; she hastily locked the door behind her even though she knew that didn't keep him away in the first place. She took her phone and called her mother, she was screaming and shouting at the same time but Anna shouted back at her warning her to stop making up silly stories. She probably just had a nightmare since Segun was not supposed to be home that night; he had a night shift at his security job and she had just finished talking to him at his work place.

Anna called her a liar and said she was trying to ruin things for her. She claimed Judith had always been the one pulling her down all along, and now when things were beginning to get better, she was trying to destroy it also. Judith was so dejected at this; even her mother did not believe her. She cried even harder and felt so much shame and detest for herself. She went into the shower to try to wash his smell and touch away from her but each splash of water brought back the ache and pains.

She grabbed the bed sheet and hid it away. When her mother got back from work the following day, she didn't bother to check up on her or to talk about the incident of the previous night. From that day, Judith resolved to protect herself come what may; she was done with depending on and trusting her mother to protect her.

After that incident, Judith always slept with an eye opened, a pair of scissors under her pillow and her door tightly locked from inside. Few weeks after this incident, she suddenly opened her eyes and found her step father in her room again. He was trying to cover her mouth but she stood up immediately grabbing the pair of scissors under her pillow.

"What are you going to do with this?" he mocked as a very offensive laugh spilled from his lips. "Don't come near me" Judith raged at him.

"Really?" He responded still laughing.

"I mean it" Judith said pointing the scissors at him. "I will not let you do this to me again, not now, not ever" She cried out in fear. "I will do anything I want with you girl" he said going further towards her this time. He roughly overpowered her, took the scissors away from her and pinned her down to the bed.

Judith screamed and cried out but

his grip was too strong for her; she begged him to stop but he laughed at her as he raped her again. After he finished his ugly act, he left her with bruises and tears running down her cheeks. Judith was so angry and got suddenly overpowered with a strong desire for revenge. She had promised herself that he would never take advantage of her again, so she carefully went into the kitchen, and took the sharpest pointed knife she could find. With each calculated and determined step, she walked into his room. She watched him for a while snoring away in his sleep with utter disgust and hate in her heart. Without thinking for another second, she got on top of him and drove the knife into his chest, stabbing him, screaming and shouting all at once. She felt the pain and bitterness surge through her each time the knife drove into his flesh.



She finally ran out and had no idea how long she took in the shower soaked in tears and blood from her just concluded act of judgement until she siren blare jolted her back to reality. The police men broke into her door, how they got wind of her act she never could tell. After a few days of questioning and investigation, with evidences including the murder weapon and trace of blood that led to her room, she was charged with his murder and sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment. The day of the murder was the last day her mother ever spoke a word to her and in fact she was not at any of her court proceedings.

It's been a few days since Judith's release, and gradually, she was warming up to Alex's hospitality. This day, they were both in the kitchen making dinner.

"So, are you planning to go back home anytime soon?" Alex asked but Judith ignored her.

"Don't get me wrong, you are more than welcome to stay here if you want but I'm sure your family would like to know that you are out" Alex said.

"Alex, I will understand if you don't want me here anymore." Judith said.

"No dear, but..." Alex said

"Please, save me the 'buts'. I don't have any family, ok?" Judith said in frustration.

"But I thought..." Alex tried to say

"You thought what?" She shouted. "That the only family I have in this world does not want me and blames me for everything; my own mother" She said in tears.

"Dear, I'm sorry" Alex said trying to hold her.

"She blames me..." Judith cried. "All these years..., I was left with no one..." She cried. "I had to do it, he took something so precious away from me and my mother was not there to protect me; she failed me and yet she blames me, and then the system put me away for something they should have protected me from. They argued that it was not self-defense as I had a cooling off period to think about my act before I did it, can you imagine? I was the victim and yet I became the offender" She said in tears.

"What can I do..." Judith cried out.

"Oh my dear....." Alex said holding her "You are in so much pain, but you have to give it all to God so that He can heal you".

Judith withdrew from her hug suddenly.

"God? What God?" Judith screamed at her "Where was he when I was raped? Where was he when I spent the better part of my life in prison for something he should have protected me from? I never begged to be born, I never asked to be in this wicked world" She said crying.

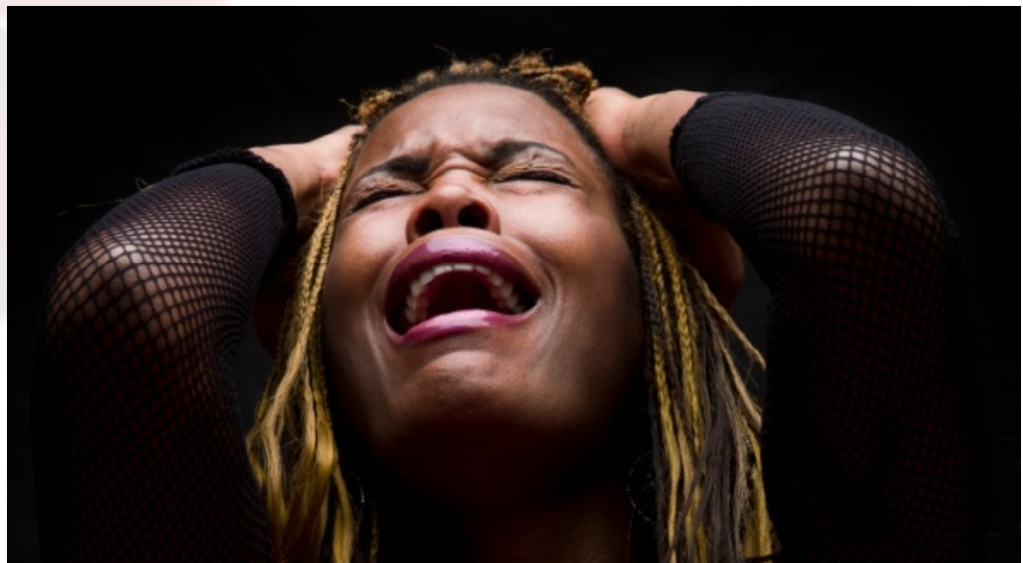
"Judith, I can't answer all these questions my dear, but I can assure you of God's unfailing love towards you. You are in pain dear, you are hurting all over and you need the power of God to heal you and wash you clean, to give you a new life; a life that sets you above the feelings of pain and disappointment that plague you, a life as a child of God" Alex said to her.

"You don't understand what they all did to me....." Judith blurted out.

"I understand what you are going through dear, I asked the same questions that you are asking now years ago" Alex said to her

in the house and beat us so bad till we had bruises all over our body. My sister was very strong; she took care of me and always had me out of the way each time he got drunk in the house. Shortly after, she became ill and my father didn't bother to take notice of her or even to get her help until she died. On his way to dispose off her body, he was caught by the police who came searching the house for more evidence and found me in the basement. I was taken into foster care until I was old enough to live by myself but by then, I was so bitter and angry with God and the world; it took away everyone who protected me. I thought God was wicked and didn't care about me. I was sad and angry but after a few years, I met with God in a way I never had before then and he gave me peace that overwhelmed my anger and bitterness, and a reason to live for. He changed my life Judith, he made all things new for me and he can do the same thing for you" Alex said to her

"What about your father?" Judith asked.



"How, what..." Judith asked.

"My dear things were very tough for me while I was growing up; my mother died after giving birth to me. So my father and elder sister were left to look after me, but only my elder sister actually did nurture me. My father was a drunk; he would lock us down in the basement of our house and tell everyone that we had gone to spend time with my mother's sister to avoid any questions. My sister was quite older than me so he would make her work like a slave

"My father died few years ago but I got my chance to speak with him. I had to forgive him of all the wrongs he did to me and my sister. Forgiveness my dear, is the answer to a child's dream of a miracle by which what is broken is made whole; we need to forgive to move on in life, we have to let go. You know, after coming across an article about your case, I was determined to get to know you. Judith, God has something great to do in your life, he has a purpose for you and he wants to make you whole. I'm

Happy Anniversary!

**25TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF EVANGELIST MIKE & GLORIA BAMILOYE
HELD ON 6/10/2013 AT RC CG KING'S PALACE, KATY, TEXAS, USA.**



Gloria 25th Mike & Gloria 25th Mike & Gloria 25th
Mike & Gloria 25th Mike & Gloria 25th Mike & Gloria 25th
Gloria 25th Mike & Gloria 25th Mike & Gloria 25th

Happy Anniversary!





Jochebed was a daughter of destiny, with a good relationship with God; this helped her to face the crisis in her life (with a good attitude) in a priestly context. In order to face the challenges of raising children in diaspora, we must have a relationship with God; know how to relate with Him in prayers, and also know His mind through His words since the moral standard of the world is too low for our God-given jewels. It takes a godly parent to raise godly children; we cannot give out what we do not have. We need to know the mind of God in everything we do which includes the affairs of our children. How close you are to God will determine the kind of children you will raise as mothers especially.

Having a vision beyond the physical

In verse 2, we read that Jochebed saw that the child she had was beautiful so she hid him. This kind of vision goes beyond the ordinary because she perceived that God had a great purpose for the child and so she did all that was within her power to save him from destiny destroyers. As parents, particularly mothers, we should be able to see beyond the physical look of our children, and get to know the purpose of God for them because there is no child without a purpose in life. This will help us as parents to lead and guide them into the God-chosen destiny for their lives. Many children are walking the wrong paths simply because their parents cannot take the time to find out God's purpose for their lives. We need to raise these children and direct them into fulfilling their destinies.

Protection; She protected the child by hiding him

The later part of verse 2 says that when she discovered that Moses was a great child, she protected him. What are we doing as parents to protect our children from danger? There is danger all around; in the school, even within the neighbourhood and these dangers pervert destinies. Some parents leave their children at the mercy of neighbours, even some family members that they really do not know well, who end up destroying the God-given purpose of these kids. We should protect them by guiding them jealously. We may not be able to

stay with them round the clock, but we can build godly values in them to guide their decisions in life. We can pray for them without ceasing to protect them from environmental dangers. If you are not the type of parent that is close to God, it will be difficult to do all these. We should also be vigilant, that is be awakened to the affairs of these children, get involved in their lives right from the day when they are born. Jochebed saved her son from perishing; we can do the same by hiding them from peril and leading them to God.

She believed in the divine provision of God

Verse 3 says that when she could no longer hide the child, she devised a means to save him. There was no other way for her other than to let go of the child. She believed that God was able to save the child from perishing. The way she did this truly showed that she had faith. How many mothers will leave their son in a basket on the river? There are times in life when we just need to let go of some situations that we cannot handle anymore and allow God to take absolute control. If she had held on to the child there was a probability that the child would be killed, but because she believed in the divine provisions of God, she released him and trusted God. Many parents today are troubled because of their children's waywardness and lackadaisical attitude; they have done everything possible to change them from these ways but to no avail. My advice to you today is; do not lose trust in God, keep offering that child to God in perpetual prayers (Is 49:15). God is able to keep that which



is kept with Him forever. Remember the widow of Zarephath who gave her last meal to the man of God believing that God is able to provide more than that. Give those troubled children to God, do not lose hope in Him and He will save them.

She prepared her daughter for motherhood

She did not only protect her son, she also prepared her daughter

By training her to be a future mother who could trust God too. She trained the girl to watch her brother. This was certainly not a day's training. She must have been training her before this day because the girl knew exactly what to say to pharaoh's daughter. If she had not been properly trained she could have said something that would have implicated the mother but she was well trained. She said i know who will take good care of him, was that not wonderful? We need to train these children in the right way for our own future rest. Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it. Jochebed was rest assured that her daughter, having gone through the training of a mother-to-be would be able to care for her brother even in her absence. As parents we need to build godly virtues in our children's life, train them in house chores, how to handle life situations and believe in them.

Jochebed was paid for raising her son

How many of us want to be paid for taking care of our own children? Verses 9 and 10 talked about Moses' mother being paid for the service she rendered to Pharaoh's daughter in raising her own child. She found favour and participated fully in the upbringing of her son just because she was godly and was able to discern God's purpose for her child's life. We may not be paid in cash, but we will reap the fruits of our labours in other means if only we can emulate Jochebed's life style.

Raising children without God in us could be dangerous, we need God; we need to be close to Him, we need to know His mind concerning our children so that at the end of the day we will have rest of mind and great shall be our peace over them.

Folake Ayandokun



Poem

Why I praise God and why I sing Praise to God only!!!
Praising God to some of us should only be done within the church environment.

Praising God to some should only be during prayer.

Praising God means a lot and diverse things to us all.

To me praising God is a lifestyle, a way of life and a must.

I praise God when I am with and when I am without.

I praise God in my pain and in gain.

I praise God when I can visualize His wonders in and around me and when I can't.

I praise God when I am expectant of things and when I am not.

I praise God whenever I see a new dawn.

I praise God because it's in praise I find peace.

I praise God not because of the benefits in it only.

I praise God when I see things that amaze me.

I praise God when I am down and my spirit becomes lifted.

I praise God in my mind when I am speechless.

I praise God in my disappointment and appointment.

I praise God not only because He deserves it.

I praise God because my Happiness and comfort is in praising Him.

I praise God because He alone is God.

If I don't praise God who will I praise?

I praise God in my distress and deliverance.

I praise God when I look into the mirror and I see myself (an image of my Maker; God)

I praise God for not just making me a woman but a vessel to honour.

Contd Pg > 31

THE FILMMAKER



By Toyin Eso - Fatunsin

"COME HOME" is an urgent message that came to me suddenly, I had thought we are not going to shoot any movie in year 2013 but then God had a plan. This is my number seven movie and I must confess I had never shot any movie like this before. I mean who can shoot a movie within a few days from script to production; I knew God wanted me to do a movie but looking around at all the constraints I felt well maybe next year but earlier in November I had a revelation that I was shooting a movie but then I was tidying up the script on location. It looks like an emergency shooting or an unprepared shooting and that was exactly what happened when we began to shoot "COME HOME" on the 6th of December in Netherlands, after four days that I received the message and I practically wrote the script till production. We had very little time to prepared for the shooting but the Lord gave us strength and grant us usual strength.

The Netherlands Shooting: About 40-45% of the movie was shot on various

locations in Netherlands, Molenhoek, Nijmegen and Amsterdam. It was not easy to shoot at this time of the year, winter is here and the weather was very cold plus I have a little son now and I have to take a break sometimes to care for him but he was very understanding and my husband so supportive as well as my cast and crew. I had to do most of the behind the scenes jobs as I don't have a full crew here like back at home in Nigeria. So I had to direct, do make-up, welfare and at times record in the continuity sheet when my husband is attending to our son or he is on set shooting his own bits. I missed my wonderful crew in Nigeria but then my camera man here is also good and energetic. My crew List include cameraman, sound/light, continuity and my all in one acts of actress, director, make up and welfare. The shooting was wrapped up in Amsterdam on Sunday 8th December 2013.

The Nigeria Shooting: My amiable and wonderful ministry members

together with my crew in Nigeria shot the remaining 55-60% of the movie few days after the Netherlands shooting. They had done about two movies since I left Nigeria and I trust in God in them to handle this as well even though the time was so short. I had to monitor the production via telephone calls, spoke with my selected cast and crew and we (my family) stay up every night till they call us that the production is over every day. Thank God for internet, I send all the scripts, schedule and other details via email to my production coordinator in Nigeria Mrs Bolanle Runsewe and my dynamic production manager Sunkanmi Shangodare. They worked together with another brother in our ministry Segun Akinyelure to coordinate the production and it was a great success to the glory of God. I am so amazed at what the Lord did in the few days and it could only be him and him alone. The movie in the post production stage now and from December 26, it will be shown in various countries in Europe to celebrate Christmas and the New Year. It was not easy but it was worth it. Thank you Jesus for this privilege. I love you Lord!





THE FILMMAKER



Location Shots from the
OVERCOMERS LATEST MOVIE:

COME HOME

Written & Produced by: **Toyin Eso-Fatunsin**

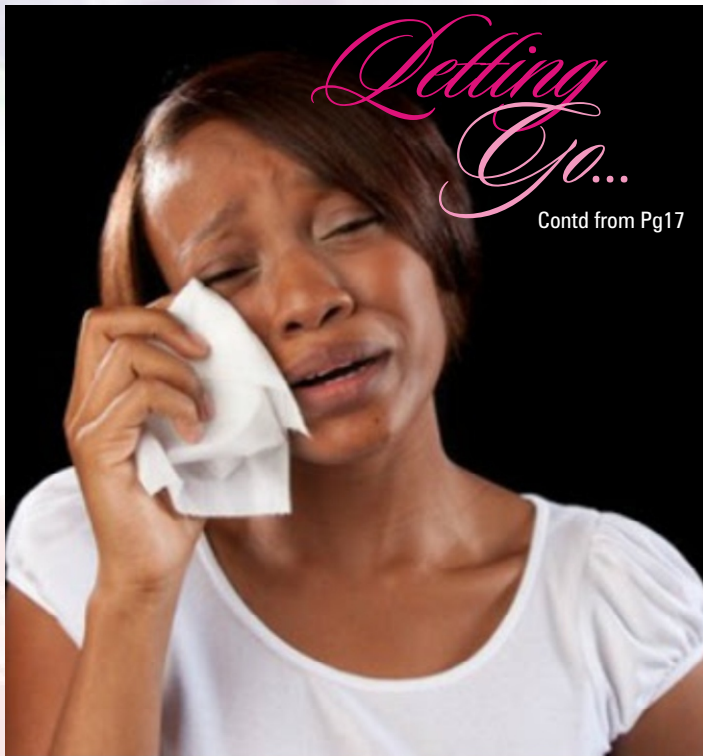


Nigeria Location



Netherlands Location





Letting Go...

Contd from Pg17

not saying what happened to you was fair, no, it wasn't. It was utter wickedness and you don't deserve it but you have to let go and give everything to God; he wants to restore you and give you a new life."

"You forgave him?" Judith said

"Yes, I did, God gives us the power to do all things including the most naturally hurtful ones" Alex said to her.

"Oh my God" Judith said as she broke down in tears. "I can't live like this any longer, I want peace. I took away a man's life.... I have no peace within me, I'm lost..." She cried out

"He will give it to you if you would ask him" Alex said in tears.

"I want you to take over my life God; I want you to help me..." Judith cried out.

Alex took her hands and led her to the Lord as they prayed and cried together to God. Judith asked God to come into her life, to make all things new and give her the courage to move on in life. It was almost a week now since Judith asked God into her life and things were a lot clearer to her now; a new found peace and purpose enveloped her. Judith stared endlessly at the building right in front of her. She couldn't picture her mother still living in the same house where the murder happened, until she checked the phone book and saw her name still listed at the same address. She dialled the number but hung up the

down in tears. "I can't live like this any longer, I want peace. I took away a man's life.... I have no peace within me, I'm lost..." She cried out

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"Mum..." Judith said in tears "You left me...." She cried. "You left me all alone and didn't believe me" She said in tears.

"It wasn't that" Anna said

"So what mum? That you chose your man over your own daughter" she shouted. "I cried and begged you to take me away from him, to do anything but leave me alone with him but no, you did otherwise

not saying what happened to you was fair, no, it wasn't. It was utter wickedness and you don't deserve it but you have to let go and give everything to God; he wants to restore you and give you a new life."

"You forgave him?" Judith said

"Yes, I did, God gives us the power to do all things including the most naturally hurtful ones" Alex said to her.

"Oh my God" Judith said as she broke

and worse still, you did not even believe me."

"No Judith. I didn't believe you then but I do now. I was ashamed of myself. I was angry at you. God! I was so stupid, it was right there in front of me and I couldn't see it. After he died, I lost my pregnancy, I didn't even know that I was pregnant; I was so angry with you." She said in tears. "You never even bothered to check on me; you just left me there mum, for fifteen good years, you never checked on me" Judith said as she tried to keep her voice low in between her heavy sobs.

"I was ashamed of myself Judith. I didn't know what you would think of me; many times, I came down to the prison and stayed at the gate for hours but I never could bring myself to go in and see your face. Please... my dear, I am so sorry... I found the bed sheet you hid away many years ago...., I tried to get you out but no lawyer would listen to my case; they said it was a closed case and so nothing could be done about it. Please my dear, I am so sorry, I have wronged you and caused you so much pain...." She said in tears. "I realised I was pregnant few months later in prison" Judith said in tears "And they took away my baby after I had her and was told that she was a girl. They said someone was waiting to adopt her" She cried out. "They took her away from me, I couldn't even get to see her face or to hold her, and they took away my baby mum....." She shivered in tears.

"Yes I know" Her mother said.

"What?" Judith whimpered.

"The couple who wanted to adopt her decided against it after they discovered that her mother was in jail, so they had no one to take her in. Her social worker finally came to me and asked if I was willing to take care of her until they could find a suitable home for her" Anna said to her surprised daughter. "They finally found a home for her but I couldn't let her go. I felt it was a chance for me to make things up to you" she said in tears as Judith sank into the couch.

"Daughter, I have wronged you so bad but I need you to please forgive me..." Anna

cried out putting her head on Judith's lap. "Oh God....."
 "If this was few weeks ago, I would never have considered forgiving you but I met with God and He changed me, He gave me peace and forgave my sins. He gave me the kind of peace that I cannot explain or fathom, a reason to live again" She said in tears holding her mother up. "I forgive you mom, I do....." she said as they both hugged and wept.

Few seconds later, the door opened and fifteen-year-old Rachael stood there, drenched in her own tears.

"I heard everything" Rachael said in tears.

Judith was taken aback as she saw the most beautiful image of herself standing in front of her.

"My God!" she whimpered standing up to her feet.

"Mother is this...."

"Yes" Anna whispered.

She made to go towards her daughter for the very first time but Rachael outran her as they locked into the most pleasantly tight hug.

"Oh mum..." Rachael said in tears. "I have waited for this day for as long as I can remember, I prayed and asked God to bring my family back together and he answered my prayer, He brought you back to me, to us..." She cried out.

"Don't cry mummy, everything would be alright now, I know" she said wiping away the tears from her mum's face.

"I know...." Judith said.

"Grandma told me everything few years ago and I never stopped praying since then. I asked God for restoration and he gave it to me".

Rachael said smiling to her mother and held unto her again.

"Thank you Lord...." Judith said in tears as she held hands with her daughter and her mother. Thank you for restoring my family back to me, thank you Jesus...." The low sobs of tears streaming down each person's eyes though not of pain but gratitude for joy, restoration, and peace filtered through her prayers as they all said AMEN.

"Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who trespass against us"
 Matt 6:12.

'Forgiveness is not suppressing anger; it is receiving a miracle that gives us the ability to see past people's mistakes to the truth that lies in all of our hearts. Forgiveness is not always easy. At times, forgiving the one that inflicted the wound hurts more than the wound itself does. Yet, there is no peace without forgiveness. Thoughts of attacks towards others are thoughts of attack towards our very own selves. The first step in forgiveness is the willingness to forgive'. ~ quote from Marianne Williamson

Above all, there is a greater presence and power in us. He is Jesus and we have an endless access to Grace and power in His name. In Him we can conquer every hurt, pain and bitterness in us for we have been saved and redeemed by His blood. God bless you.

THE END.

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PASTORS' WIVES in DIASPORA

DEAL WITH LONELINESS AND FACE THE TASK

Loneliness is a feeling of emptiness that is caused by the lack of knowing anyone around, lack of friends, and can result in depression. It also is a painful awareness, that we lack meaningful contact with others. It involves a feeling of inner emptiness, a sense of feeling unloved and rejected by those around us.

It produces discouragement, sadness, restlessness, and an intense desire to be wanted and needed by someone. If unchecked on time it may lead to depression due to inability to cope with it.

An example is Elijah running from Jezebel. 1 King 19:10. He said "I am alone, I am left alone". We must deal with loneliness in whatever form we experience it. Some forms of loneliness are:

(1) Social loneliness: The people in the society want you to have a code of conduct that expects you as a minister's wife to be perfect at all times. There is a high demand laid on you. The pressure can even make a minister's wife to be who she does not want to be. You are supposed to have your life in order, your children, and your ministry and even as the minister's wife, you have to do some secular job in order to support your husband to be in full time ministry. Europe just like many other places outside of our own home country is so quiet and cold. The society already projects loneliness. However, my sister who is out there be strong for the grace of God is sufficient for us.

(2) Emotional loneliness: This involves lack of intimate relationship with another person. Naturally, most women like to have their husband around most of the time. "Do I have a witness?" You want him around to share your experiences, fears, plans or just to have him around and enjoy him. Unfortunately, most times the husband is into much traveling,

or spending time with the Lord, in prayer and fasting, conferences, services, or going about our father's business in general (THE CHURCH).

This creates a kind of emotional loneliness, especially because you do not have close friends and the only one with whom you can closely relate with emotionally may not be readily available to you when you need him the most. But glory be to God the internet has helped to eradicate some aspects of loneliness.

Loneliness causes lack of joy and the inability to love one's self. It is a subtle thief that can steal your joy. Loneliness causes joy to wither away from your life (Joel 1:12). When joy withers, life itself becomes unfulfilling and unproductive. Inability to love yourself can make you get so sold out to the people that you forget to love yourself as much as you love others (Matthew 22:39). You deny yourself of so many things spiritually or otherwise. Don't be drawn in your loneliness; deal with it and overcome it.

FACE THE TASK; DEAL WITH IT!



1. Fill your mind with thoughts of hope. Phil 4:8. Finally,



About PASTOR LOVETH ISIBOR

Senior Pastor Of International Christian Centre.

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CENTER (ICC) was founded in 2005. ICC is a multicultural church just as the name implies. We are a house of

I must add that messages preached from the pulpit have added to these problems. There is a need for more messages that will make us to stay focused on Christ.

I preach along with my husband, I head the women of wisdom ministry (WOW) within the church. We meet once in a month and have conferences every two years. I also coordinate all the departments in the church.

Yes, I minister in conferences outside our church. I also have a group of women with whom I go to the red light districts to minister to women.

I think the major part of this is experienced whenever my husband travels. I still have my secular job and at such times I have to take all his duties over. However, I thank God for His faithfulness and the people around us with whom we have been blessed and highly favoured.

prayer for all nations; one church, one vision, one goal in multiplicity of locations. We are about raising leaders, transforming lives from hopelessness to blessedness and occupying territories. We are for signs and wonders. Right from its establishment, we have experienced the hands of God. Several awesome things have been done by the hands of God; the barren have conceived many of whom got double for their troubles (set of twins), many have been healed, and the lame have leaped out of the wheel chair and several other testimonies to the glory of God.

I am Nigerian by birth and a Dutch citizen. I am married to Pastor Julius Isibor and we are blessed with three children. I joined my husband in Europe in the year 1992 after we got married in August of the same year. We both are the senior pastors of international Christian Centre.



Thank God for His grace and faithfulness. Churches here in Holland cannot be compared to those back at home where we are from. Most people are not receptive to the gospel; they exalt man and his abilities above the supreme God and pride themselves in whatever success Holland is. Some of the people who are in church also have a focus or motive issue; they get too occupied with wanting to make money. Don't get me wrong, it's good to make money but the Bible says 'seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and these other things shall be added unto you'. Moreover, most of the basic necessities which are problems back at home are available here. This makes people feel there is no need to go to the Lord or have fellowship with brethren. I have experienced many times a vibrant Christian from home on fire for the first three months and then their focus changes and you see the fire vanish.





The Christian Lady & Her Emotions

What I know Vs. What I feel.
(1Pet 3:3-4)

It is common knowledge that women are softer and more emotional than men. We cry easily and are easily touched by how our spouses, friends and family members feel. When communicating with God, women are found to be more emotional with Him than men. Hence the humorous saying that the woman was made to express God's emotional side.

In this same light, as women, we respond to most circumstances with emotions. When we are hurt by the people we love and trust, we tend to react just as our emotions dictate at that given time, likewise, when something or someone makes us happy, we react with unbridled emotions of joy.

Our emotions are responsible for up to 90% of our decisions as women and the remaining 10% are based on our re-reasoning after a wealth of emotional experience has shown us that emotions are not always right.

Emotions can also be swung into extremes at times; this is what science terms as mood swings. This moment we are happy and the next seems like we were never happy. For some ladies, it is less frequent, while in others, their mood swings make them a "danger zone" to toy with.

Asides how our emotional balance creates a perception about

us in the minds of people, our emotions also affect our quality of life as spirit beings and as human beings. This is because, as spirit beings, our emotions may make us take decisions contrary to God's commands, and as human beings, our emotions can be offensive to our neighbors.

Mostly, we spend time discussing how we feel, whether we are happy or sad, good or bad. Discussing how we feel may make us feel better but it is temporary. Expressing emotions can make us feel really good at times; however, emotions are not a Christian lady's best friend, neither are mood swings godly or scriptural.

Emotions can be very demanding, pushy, forceful and whiny, like a little child, till it gets what it wants. Emotions can make an extramarital affair feel right and give you all the "good" reasons why your spouse is not your "Mr Right"; after all, he abuses you and cheats on you or doesn't pay attention to you emotionally. Emotions will make you get stuck in an abusive relationship as a single lady, because your emotions tell you that you can't live without him. Emotions will make you "feel right" to steal in order to feed because no one cares to feed you. Emotions will tell you it is right to avoid men because one, two or even three broke your heart. Emotions can even make

premarital sex seem right "as far as he has promised to marry you".

There is a whole range of what emotions can make us do, just because it succeeds at convincing our "soul" that what it demands is right.

Every Christian woman has a "God-shaped vacuum" in her life that keeps demanding that she makes godly decisions in the face of opposing emotions. This vacuum is situated in the conscience. The more a Christian lady allows her emotions to overrule her conscience, the more her conscience dies a slow and painful death.

We make so many wrong decisions and regret them because we allow our emotions to control us. Rather than have this, we are meant to control our emotions. This is why emotions are likened to a little child that has no understanding of the threats that holding a knife poses to her life. In order to protect our destinies from being wrecked by the cravings of our emotions, we must learn to "parent" our emotions. Tell your emotions what you will do despite its whining. Instead of allowing them control you, control them!

Because feelings are unstable, a lady who lives by them is bound to live an unstable life. Even secular moral values cannot be judged by the tenets of our emotions because our emotions can make the worst things seem so right.

WHAT ARE THE REASONS FOR YOUR EMOTIONAL RESPONSES?

Some ladies have had it rough, may be in marriage, growing up, in relationships with the opposite sex, or even personal mistakes. It is easy to form perceptions and stereotypes about a particular set of people or things because of past experiences. However, the more we do this we hurt ourselves by denying ourselves meaningful relationships with deserving people or even engaging in fun activities within acceptable limits. Every woman walking on the face of the earth has had her fair share of pain and disappointments, but do we ask ourselves how some manage to look and feel so good despite their life's story?

The truth is, there is no temptation that has befallen you that is not common to humanity. Whatever you may have gone through, are going through or will go through, has happened, is happening or will happen to someone else. So, debunk the mentality of, "why me God"? If you keep acting like a bitten

snake and pouring venom on everyone that comes your way, you stand a higher chance of missing your angels. Few minutes bout of emotions is not worth a life time of regrets. Rather than do what your emotion says to do, think about the long term effect of what your decision will be. If you don't parent your emotions, your emotions will take advantage of you.

If you are the type who responds to people in the heat of anger, you might be jeopardizing your future in more ways than you can wrap your mind around. Likewise, if you are one who opens up your whole life to people in the name of "feeling comfortable" with them, you are also assassinating many things in your life that your eyes may not see at the moment.

FACING YOUR EMOTIONAL ISSUES

You must confront your experiences with the word of God. This is very important. You are to be a spirit controlled woman not an emotionally controlled woman. You must also learn to discuss your issues with God (Ps 32:3) and be confident that He listens to you and is working out all things for your good,

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because, many people around you only want to know your issues for information sake. It is good to confide in a person who will counsel you, however, be careful to prayerfully pick someone who will hold your hand up spiritually and not take advantage of you.

You also have to be alert all the time, this is because, emotions can be very subtle too and you may not know when they creep in until you have made a mistake. Once you notice that your emotions are swelling above your sense of judgment and godliness, take out your parental whip quickly and flog it back to place.

This does not mean that you live in denial of how you feel if you have been hurt, or you love someone you aren't supposed to. This simply means that you choose to weigh your emotional feelings alongside God's accepted standards and choose to follow God's standard... Yes! We begin to produce actions not as a reflex but by God-led choices.

Finally, you must always remind yourself that "this too shall pass". There is no bout of emotion, no matter how strong, it will eventually die and pass, if you are patient enough to wait it out prayerfully and not act upon it.

Dear Sister, emotions not ruled by God is the Christian lady's worst enemy. It is a battle between the ungodly desires and Godly truths.

Prayer: Lord, I come before your throne of mercy as Hebrews 4:16 commands me. I need your Grace to overcome the emotions that so strongly war to overcome me. Give me the power and spiritual willingness to always pick what you want for me versus what I want for myself in Jesus name.

Key point: Always remember that you are a mother to your emotions and your child can't boss you around. Remain ever blessed!

Itabiyi Amoke



Poem

Contd from Pg21

I am a fruitful vine, a woman after God's own Heart, a mother to Nations like Sarah, a productive help to the bone of my bone.

I sing praise because I can't, don't and wouldn't stop praising God.

I will continue to praise my Maker as long as I have the breath of life....

I praise God because I am a daughter of destiny...

I sing His praise because I am a chosen vessel.

What about you? Why do you praise God? Do you engage in praising God? When would you start praising God?

Don't wait till you see a miracle or become ridiculed before praising God...

Praise God now, always and in advance.

(Composed by Leah Adepehjuh)



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Safe Motherhood

Experience Motherhood Safely!

It is a divine privilege to be a mother. Almost every girl longs to be one from the time she starts to talk. Being a mother is a divine assignment.....we are co-workers with God in the miracle of creation! We help him keep the human race going! Awesome! However, being a mother can also be a risky business especially for people living in the developing countries of the world where maternal deaths are still very high. The numbers of newborns who die at birth on a daily basis in these countries could be as high as over seven hundred! No wonder the Yorubas in Nigeria greet a new mother 'E ku ewu omo' meaning 'you just escaped danger'! I am sure that was not the original purpose of God in the beginning but we all know that the fall of man into sin has led to this dangerous scenario. However, thank God for the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, we Christian ladies can have safe motherhood! God gives a powerful promise in 1Timothy 2:15...'Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety'.

In addition to the promise from God's word however, we also have our roles to play as mothers and mothers-to-be. In this article, we will address important areas that contribute to achieving our desire for safe motherhood. We need to ensure that we add to our faith knowledge as the scripture enjoins us, because God's people are often destroyed for lack of knowledge. The information is not only for the married but the singles as well as preparation for safe motherhood starts long before even marriage or conception itself. Read, apply and be blessed.

1. Adequate Nutrition

Eating balanced healthy diet is very crucial for any Mother-to-be. This is important before pregnancy and during pregnancy too. All girl children need to be fed properly so as to ensure that their body grows to its full potential which is very crucial for their ability to successfully deliver a child. Malnutrition can cause the pelvis to be narrow which can lead to obstructed labour in future. Eating disorders, terrible aversion for food and anorexia nervosa ;a sense of wrong body image that makes one think they are too fat especially among the adolescents, can cause hormonal imbalance which may also lead to difficulty with getting pregnant. So future mothers, eat well and also feed our girl children well. The importance of right diet during pregnancy itself cannot be overemphasized too.

2. Taking Folic acid regularly

All ladies of child-bearing age from age 15 35 should take folic acid regularly. Folic acid help prevent some malformation of the baby's spinal cord (spina bifida). Though most women take folic acid during pregnancy but its effect is better before conception. By the time most women discover that they are pregnant usually at 2months gestation, most organs in the baby's body have been formed already. So start taking your folic acid early now!

3. Immunization

There are certain important vaccines that all women should take. A very important one is the Tetanus toxoid (TT) vaccine. All women of child-bearing age should have 5 doses of TT. One can start before pregnancy or

take them with each pregnancy. This immunization will protect the mother from tetanus but more importantly protect her baby from neonatal tetanus which is a killer disease of newborns. Another important immunization is the rubella vaccine which will protect the newborn from congenital rubella syndrome which is associated with

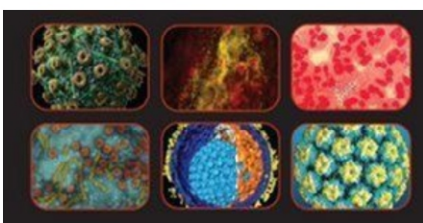


deafness, heart malformation and other problems in the baby. Please ensure you take all the necessary immunizations before you embark on the journey of motherhood.

4. Avoid sexually transmitted infections

It is important for the single ladies to live pure, chaste lives by abstaining from premarital sex and for the married to also be faithful to their husbands. This will help prevent sexual transmitted infections like gonorrhoea, herpes, syphilis and of course the incurable HIV/AIDS to mention a few. Some of these infections can damage the reproductive organs with

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baby either in the womb, at delivery or through breast milk. The admonition to keep one's self pure is not just moral but a great preventive strategy for anyone who desires to have safe motherhood.

5. Focused Antenatal Care

All pregnant women should be looked after by qualified professionals. The primigravida; the first-timers especially need to be under the care of an experienced obstetrician. It is important to register for antenatal care early once a lady discovers that she is pregnant. The experienced mothers should not be

over-confident too. The antenatal care helps to detect early any problems with the pregnancy and also address it on time.

6. Malaria Prophylaxis

Malaria in pregnancy can be quite dangerous for the mother and the baby in the womb especially for those living in malaria-endemic areas. All pregnant women are to take two doses of Sulphadoxine-Pyrimethamine (Fansidar) in pregnancy starting from the second trimester. This is called Intermittent Presumptive Treatment of malaria (IPT). Again this is quite important for the primigravida to avoid the complications associated with malaria in pregnancy.

7. Supervised Delivery

Most maternal and newborn deaths occur at home where the delivery is not supervised by skilled attendants. Let us ensure that we either go to the hospital or health centre for supervised delivery at the onset of labour. Things can go wrong sometimes at the last minute even though pregnancy has been fine all along. Delays at such times can be dangerous. Being at the right place under the right kind of care will help to detect any problem and professional emergency intervention can be instituted.

8. Planned motherhood

We have been commanded to multiply but the design of God is not for one family to single-handedly carry out the replenishing of the earth. So, it is important to plan the number of children we can safely care for. It is also important to space the pregnancies well enough to allow full recovery of the mother before embarking on another one. It is usually recommended to have at least 18-24 months between each pregnancy. There are many family planning methods that can help achieve proper spacing of our children, let's ensure we utilize them.

Even though the above simple and low-cost strategies are not exhaustive, they have been proven by research to be able to significantly reduce the number of deaths of mothers and children related to pregnancy and child-bearing. In addition, we will have healthier children. So as we pray and plan to be mothers, let us make use of these proven strategies and with God we shall all have safe motherhood experience in Jesus name. God bless you all.

Dr. Gbemisola Boyede



Testimonies

Testimony from the Daughters of Destiny Time Out in London May, 2012.

I just want to bless the name of the Lord for His faithfulness to us all during the time out in London, and to worship Him for His grace and power in the life of sister Toyin, God really used her for us. Definitely I prayed for the programme, but more for myself since I didn't know what to expect, and I want to share with you my sisters that God planned the programme purposely for me. Imagine the awesome message that sister Toyin gave, it was like God stood in front of me talking to me. I have a call of God upon my life, it have nothing to do with my pastoral work, it is a personal calling. I definitely received the instruction but I started running on my own but when things did not work out as expected , I just let go and said God will perfect things in His own time. When I listened to Sis Toyin's personal testimony, it dawn on me I'm missing the directions and a miracle happened in my heart, a new flame began to burn.....**Dupe Akinwande.**

Testimony from the Daughters of Destiny Time Out in London May, 2012.

I hosted Daughters of Destiny day out in Coventry in February 2012 and I asked for a child from the Lord, the following month the Lord blessed me with the fruit of the womb. I want to thank God that I had my baby nine months after and she is doing well.....**Abimbola.**

Feedback

Feedback from the Online Skype Fellowship.

The Daughters of Destiny Skype meetings are a wonderful opportunity for sisters in Christ globally to come together on a bi-weekly basis to share in the word of God, pray, discuss issues affecting us women and find Christ centered solutions. Personally, I have been blessed through the meetings and also seen God answered prayers as we connect together....**Annalisa Sandcroft (Jamaica)**





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