



# MIRACLE-US

The Evilizing Power Of  
Anger, Offence, Frustration  
And Peer Pressure

STEPHEN NYENTY



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from the Holy Bible

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# ANGER



*"Sometime passed, then one day Cain brought to God some of the fruits that he had grown. The fruits were an offering to the Lord God. But Abel brought fat pieces from some of the first young ones of the animals that he kept. The Lord God was happy with Abel and his offering, but the Lord God was not happy with Cain and his offering. Cain was very angry, his face looked sad. Then God said to Cain "Why are you angry Why do you look sad If you do what is right, I will be happy with you, but if you do wrong things, sin will be like a wild animal at your door, it will be like an animal that wants to eat you, but you must be its master." (Easy English)*

*At harvest time, Cain brought the Lord gift of his farm produce and Abel the fatty cuts of meat from his best lands and presented them to the Lord And the Lord accepted Abel's offering, but not Cain's. This made Cain both dejected and very angry and his face grew dark with fury. "Why are you angry?" The Lord asked him, "Why is your face so dark with rage. It can be bright with joy if you will do what you should! But if you refuse to obey, watch out Sin is waiting to attack you, longing to destroy you, but you can conquer it." (Living Bible) Genesis 4 vs 3 to 7*



**A**nger is a strong feeling of displeasure or annoyance and often of active opposition to an offence by means of feeling insulted, cheated, disappointed or betrayed.

This brings to my mind a very interesting cartoon titled Miraculous: Tales of Ladybug and Cat Noir. It is usually aired on Disney Channel DSTV. I have been watching the cartoon for maybe a year or two now, but recently, as I was watching a particular episode, I realized and got more understanding of what God was telling Cain in Genesis 4:7.

It occurred to me that the devil is always in anticipation and a look-out for everyone who is angry, he knows that as long as the anger is sustained, he is able to evilize the individual, by sending evil spirits into one's mind, who would eventually influence your thoughts, magnify your supposed hurt and exaggerate the offense out of proportion. Then he gives you ideas and power (opportunity) to retaliate back. A tooth for a tooth, blood for blood.

God revealed in Genesis 4:7 " Like a wild animal at your door, it will be like an animal that wants to eat you". The means every time we get angry, it gives satan and his demons opportunity to take advantage of us, use us to kill people's zeal, joy and maybe bodies, destroy long-

standing relationships, destiny helpers, ministerial friendship and partnership.

### **Bring your anger into the right perspective**

*"If you are angry, don't sin by nursing your grudge" (Living Bible)*

*"Go ahead and be angry, you do well to be angry- but don't use your anger as fuel for revenge..... Don't give the devil that and of foot hold in your life (Message)*

*Ephesians 4:26-27*

God tried giving Cain the right perspective of anger. I'll highlight the scripture again then we shall put in straight forward expression of God's right perspective of anger.

*"Then God said to Cain 'why are you angry?', why do you look sad? If you do wrong things, sin will be like an animal at your door. It will be like an animal that wants to eat you. But you must be its master"*

*Genesis 4:6-7 (Easy English)*

## **PERSPECTIVE**

### **1. Anger is permissible but not approved**

God asked "why are you angry". In essence God was saying, hmmm, is there a need to be angry, is it really necessary to be angry, must you be angry? But if you do get angry, no problem, ensure you put a healthy restrain or boundary on it. My friends, this shows that it is not on every matter you throw a tantrum it is not on every insult, or ridicule that gets you red-hot in anger. Remember...

*"An angry man is a weak man. He is like a city without walls that an enemy attacks."*

*Proverbs 25:28(Easy English)*

### **2. Before you get angry judge yourself**

God said *“If you do what is right, I will be happy with you. But if you do wrong things sin will be like a wild animal at your door”.*

Many times we get what we give, we reap what we sow, respect is reciprocal. I have noticed that people want to abuse others verbally, morally, emotionally, relationally or corporately, but don't want to be corrected, scolded, warned, sacked or beaten.

My brothers and sisters there is no smoke without a fire, rather than getting angry with the actions, more better rendering is re-actions of people. I believe we should first check inward, ask yourself questions such as, *“what have I done wrong, said wrong, dressed wrong given wrong?”* As they say the way you dress (your action) is the way you will be addressed (the reaction).

Remember...

*Fire goes out for lack of fuel, and tensions disappear when gossip stops. A quarrelsome man starts fights as easily as a match sets fire to paper.*

*The man who sets a trap for others will get caught in it himself. Roll a boulder down on someone and it will roll back and crush you.*

*Proverbs 26:20-21,27 (Living Bible)*

### **3. Anger is the womb of evilize action**

God said *“sin will be like a wild animal at your door”.*

Be careful, you are now treading on dangerous ground. It is at this point, you need to be careful, take a deep breath, excuse yourself, why, because now Satan is rising up and his demons are closer than you think or realize.



At this point, you will start having ideas and suggestion on what to reply back, on what to do that would hurt the person real bad, and

how to strategically and effectively say those words or carry out these actions. Realise that at this point, you are not your normal self, the devil is already at work, he is called the tempter, so he is already tempting you, whining you, double-daring you.

My friends hold back, be angry, but sin not.....put a restrain to your anger, don't yield to his temptation, there is no reward proving yourself of what you are made up, or who you are at this time, let the steam cool off.

Realise

*The quickly angered man stirs up contention, but anyone who controls his temper calms a dispute.*

*Proverb 15:18 (ISV)*

#### **4. My Masquerading Friend**

God said "It will be like an animal that wants to eat you"

The devil makes you think in your mind, he gives you an impression, that he wants the best for you, he doesn't want anyone bossing over you, or bullying you. He gives you the impression that you are just trying to protect or defend yourself, he gives you the opinion that if you don't stand for yourself, if you don't fight for your honour, that no one will, and everyone will see you as a weakling, or take advantage of you.

He makes you see all his ideas as innocently trying to care for you. Know this today, that it is a big lie, he is actually intending to accomplish the opposite of what he is trying to make you think or do. You are his target, he wants you as his prey, it is you not the once who have offended you, he wants, he is trickish, he is subtle, he is like a green snake under a green grass. Do not pick his call. Do not press that button, you have a choice.

#### **Notice this fact**

*Do not get angry quickly. That is what fools do, try to forget the bad things*

*that people may have done to you.  
Ecclesiastes 7:9 (Easy English)*

## 5. Master your emotions

God said in conclusion *"But you must be its master"*

This means, the power not to let it go a-wire, is at your disposal, don't say I don't know how to control myself, when I get angry, it is until I break something. That is when I will be normal..... you have proved by your words that you are not really normal, because everything created has a limit, so if you create anger, you can limit it, from going off into something destructive.

God set boundary on the ocean, He told winter when it should starts and when to end, He gave a limit to when to sow and when to begin to reap. If you can't master your emotions, it means that emotional expressions has been hijacked by demons, Call 911 emergency line which is the help of the Holy-Spirit at this point.

*The Bible says let God be true and every man a liar. Romans 3:4. God said in Galatians 5:23 that the fruits of the born-again human spirit is "gentle in behaviour, and has control over desires (BBE).*

So my dear readers, thanks for reading this far, get a grip on your emotions, any put everything to perspective.



# OFFENCE

“One day Cain suggested to his brother “ Let's go out into the fields”. And while they were together there, Cain attacked and killed his brother. But afterwards the Lord asked Cain “where is your brother?” “where is Abel?”. “How should I know?” Cain retorted. “Am I supposed to keep track of him wherever he goes?” But the Lord said “your brother's blood calls to me from the ground. What have you done?”

Genesis 4:10 (Living Bible)



**T**he word offence is almost equal to the word anger, but offence goes more deeper in expression of a certain type of thinking and emotion.

Offence means displeasure or resentment been upset, been emotionally wounded, been aggrieved. All this definition shows extreme displeasure, that often move people to do well calculated emotional evil against each other.

I believe when one gets angry, they don't do anything sinful or extremely violent things until they have entered this stage called offence.

*Then said he unto his disciples, it is impossible, but that offence will come, take heed to yourselves; if thy brother trespass against thee rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him.*

*Luke 17:1-3*

Jesus said, it is impossible for there not to be offence (bitterness, displeasure or resentment). We live in an imperfect world where people show their imperfections by doing unpleasant things that creates offence in the minds of people.



## GIVE NO ROOM FOR OFFENCE

*Quick to forgive an offence. Forgive as quickly and completely as the master forgave you.*

*Colossians 3:13 (Message Bible)*

I'll be highlighting some point from the subsequent actions of Cain right after he got angry. I want to give some salient truth about offence.

### SALIENT TRUTHS

*One day Cain suggested to his brother, "Let's go out into the fields". And while they were together there, Cain attacked and killed his brother.*

*Genesis 4:8*

#### 1. Offence is sustained and well contemplated anger

"One day". This reveals that some few days have passed Genesis 4:7-8. Why did Cain do what he did? What transpired within those few days? I believe Cain experienced an evilized incubation process, where the devil kept reminding him about how he was cheated, how that Abel was God's favourite, how that inspite of all his hard-work and sacrifice God still did not like his offerings, how that Abel stole his blessing by bringing in something probably more better.

And as he kept considering this ideas, Satan gave him, he was beginning to get offended, at his brother Abel. My friends, never let an angry experience lay in peace in your heart. Eradicate it, sort it out, do not take angry thoughts, emotions or experience to bed without resolving it.

Little wonder the bible says *"Let not the sun go down upon your wrath"*  
*Ephesians 4:26b*

#### 2. Watch your thoughts process

Cain suggested to his brother, *"Let's go out into the fields"*

I have had people share with me about their sexual drive, they

nickname it "kongi". They say when *kongi* comes, it starts out with a sexual feeling, then a compelling thoughts or idea on how to carry or relive such sexual urges, like a madman (who can trek from Lagos to Osun state, because his brains is no longer working) so this individual goes out tirelessly, not minding the financial cost, over looking the health risk, or the social scandal it could have on them, as long as they could relieve and execute this desire, imagination and evilized ambition.

Like-wise an angry person, if he or she does not objectively tackle or address, this situation that has made him angry, the devil will start bringing in suggestions, ideas and if you don't resist those thought, if you embrace them by engaging those thoughts, they would stir up a very negative and vengeful feeling or emotion, if you do not get a fire extinguisher immediately to stop this emotional fire, it would start forming and moving you into the direction of revenge that is mostly brutal, senseless and irresponsible.



*Don't let anyone under pressure to give in to evil say, "God is trying to trip me up." God is impervious to evil, and puts evil in no one's way. The temptation to give in to evil comes from us and only us. We have no one to blame but the leerings, seducing flare-up of our own lust. Lust gets pregnant, and has a baby; sin! Sin grows up to adulthood, and becomes a real killer*

*James 1:13-15(Message Bible)*

### **3. Expect to be made angry, choose not to get offended**

Then said He unto the disciples, it is impossible, but that offences will come.

Here Jesus stated that you can and should expect people to rob you the wrong way, make allowance for such incidents.

Even in the church among Christian minister and workers, it is bound that we sometime do things to ourselves that makes us irritated. Between husbands and wife, one would do something the other person does not like. Why! Because we are human beings, imperfect in our expressions and we live in an imperfect world where things, don't always turn out as good or right as we expect them to be. But we have the power to over-look excuse, degrade the issue and stop offences from taking place.

*Jesus was right when he said "and then many shall be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another." Matthew 24:10*

Many, does not mean all, that means some got offended, who choose to overlook the fault. Learn from Cain, if you don't want to be judged more severally than he.

*And it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and slew him  
Genesis 4:8*

#### **4. Make allowance for each other's faults**

Make allowance means, give room for people to be humans, do not forget that no one has the power to get you angry or offended or vengeful, God has given you a priceless gift of choose. If the Bible says make allowance, it means, you can actually do it, so do not always take things personal, learn to laugh out and ignore statements, actions of what people say and do around you. Learn to keep your cool, and realize 2/3 of a born-again child of God (your soul and body) is in the process of becoming like Christ, so get over expecting people to always treat you right and well, and look to God as your justice and righteousness.

*Make allowance for each other's faults and forgive anyone who offends*

*you*

*Colossians 3:13 (NLT)*

## **5. Forgive instantly**

*Take heed to yourselves! If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him and if he repent, forgive him.*

*Luke 17:3*

To forgive is not to hold the fault or the wrong of the person who wronged you, you let it go, you have to let go of the pain however painful it is.

One bad trait I have noticed among young people is their inability to forgive, I realize how hard it has become to forgive people, yet they can go around with such people and act as though nothing is wrong, they keep grudges, they can come to church or fellowship, and blast in tongues, but I wonder what type of Holy-spirit they have, or maybe they have bullied the Holy-spirit to silent.

Many of them cannot be stable and loyal to church or fellowship, because if so and so does something I don't like, they would often say "there are many churches or fellowship around". If the Pastor gets me angry, says something I don't agree with or "unfairly" scolds me, well, I don't have to keep paying my tithe in the church, I can go somewhere else and do it.

So because of the lack of the forgiving spirit we now see a generation of vagabond, spiritual bastards, church or fellowship prostitutes.

It should not be so, I encourage you let go of the bitterness, let go of the offence, many of you are just too proud to forgive people, even if they won't ask for it, or they are totally oblivious to the fact that they have offended you.

### **I'll highlight some bible verses that encourage us to forgive.**

*i. And if he trespass against the seven time in a day and seven times in a day turn again to thee saying I repent; thou shalt forgive him!*

*Luke 17:4*

*2. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering forbearing one another, and forgiving one another if any man have quarrel against any even as Christ forgive you so also do ye"*

*Colossians 3:12-13*





**PEER -  
PRESSURE**



**H**ave you ever found yourself in a situation where the pressure and influence of your peers pushed you in a direction you opposed? Just about every one of us at some time or another, have found ourselves in such a situation.

Peer pressure affects every age. Some adults are weaker at resisting this type of influence than some children and teenagers.

A peer is a person who is equal to another in abilities, qualification, age, background and social status. So what is peer pressure? It is where there is social pressure by members of one's peer group to take a certain action, adopt certain values, or otherwise conform in order to be accepted.

What impact does peer pressure have on you? What does the bible say about it?

### **GOING AGAINST THE FLOW**

Peer pressure is going in the same direction as the crowd. But if they are doing wrong, the bible strongly advise the person to change directions.

*Don't go along with the crowd in doing evil and don't forge your testimony in a case just to please the crowd.*

*Exodus 23:2-3 (Message Bible)*

It is easy to follow the crowd in doing wrong because the way of the world is a broad road which many people walk. People do not like to be unpopular and therefore are reluctant to support an unpopular cause. Most people prefer to follow the majority.

To further give a vivid explanation of what peer pressure is, I'll highlight a real life experience though funny but it happened to me.

I remember in the year 2008, I think it was December 31st, I remember I went for the cross-over night vigil, returning I was in January 1, 2009, as I was passing through a street while heading home. I just noticed people running helter-scamter, I also ran as fast as I could but suddenly I stopped to ask myself, why was I running? Why were they running (the crowd)? It occurred to me that I ran not knowing why, were I was these guys the crowd was leading to, immediately, I caught myself back, I stayed my cool and walked majestically back home safe and secured in the Lord.

This is how peer pressure could make you become senseless, directionless and totally overcome and useless. Imagine you were in a crowd walking out of a packed room when you all of a sudden had to turn around because you had forgotten something in the room. You can imagine how hard and difficult it is to try and walk against the crowd. In a similar way it requires a lot of courage to go different direction to the crowd.

### **Example of going with the crowd**

Unfortunately, the Bible is full of examples of people who were swept along by a popular movement to evil and destruction. Here are few examples of what not to do

#### **1. Noah**

Now after the population of human beings had increased throughout the earth, and daughters had been born to them. Some divine beings



noticed how attractive human women were, so they took wives for themselves from a selection that pleased them. So the Lord said "My spirit won't remain with human beings forever, because they're truly mortal. Their life span will be 120 years.

God looked at the earth, observing how corrupt its population had become, because the entire human race corrupted itself. Then the Lord told Noah, "*Come you and all your household into the ark because I've seen that you alone are righteous in this generation!*"

*Genesis 6:1-3,12; 17:1 (ISV)*

Most of the men and women who lived at the time of Noah were swept along with the crowd. Noah and his family went against the crowd and followed the commands of God. As a result, they were the only ones saved at the time of a huge destructive flood.

## 2. Pontius Pilate

*Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that a riot was about to break-out instead. So he took some water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, saying "I am innocent of this man's blood. Attend to that yourselves" All the people answered "Let his blood be on us and our children"! Then he released Barabbas for them, but he had Jesus whipped and handed over to be crucified.*

*Matthew 27:24-26(ISV)*

Although Jesus was innocent according to Roman law. Pilate caved into political pressure. He abandoned what he knew was right. Pilate made a decision that would please everyone while keeping himself safer. When we lay aside God's clear statement of right and wrong and make decisions based on the preferences of the crowd, we fall into the compromise and loneliness. *God promises to honour those who do right, not those who make everyone happy.*

The tendency of people is to join a majority. The danger is that the majority may be supporting that which is wrong. It is possible for a

person to speak in support of an issue merely to deceive others that he supports it, whereas he knows it is wrong. It is difficult to stand against the tide of public opinion, but is evil to imply support for a matter that you secretly oppose.

### 3. Peter at Antioch

But when Peter came to Antioch I had to oppose him publicly speaking strongly against what he was doing, for it was so very wrong. For when he first arrived, he ate with the Gentile Christians who don't bother with circumcision and the many other Jewish laws. But afterward when some Jewish friends of James came, he wouldn't eat with the Gentiles anymore because he was afraid of what these Jewish legalists, who insisted that circumcision was necessary for salvation, would say' and then all the other Jewish Christians and even Barnabbas became hypocrites too, following Peter's example, Though they certainly knew better.



When I saw what was happening and that they believed and weren't following the truth of the Gospel, I said to Peter in front of all the others, "Though you are a Jew by birth, you have long since discarded the Jewish laws; so why, all of a sudden, are you trying to make these Gentiles obey them?"

*Galatians 2:11-14 (Living Bible)*

Peter was driven by fear as he was concerned about what James and others would think of him being with Gentiles. James had a very prominent position and presided over the council. But Paul accused Peter of his actions violating the gospel.

Compromise is an important element in getting along with others, but we should never compromise the truth of God's word. If due to peer pressure

*we feel we have to change our Christian believes to match those of our companies, we are on dangerous grounds.*

#### **4. Here are four words about peer pressure**

- a. Intimidation
  - b. Overwhelming
  - c. Persuasive
  - d. Threatening
- Study Daniel 3:1-15

#### **5. Strong Advise from the Bible**

*When bad men try to cause you to sin, my son, do not do it, They may say 'come with us, we will find some-one to kill. We will attack people who have not done anything wrong. They may be alive and well when we find them. But they will be dead when we leave them we will get lots of valuable things and we will fill our houses with them. Come and join us. Our money will be your money. And your money will be our money. My son, do not go with people like that. Stay away from them.*

*Proverbs 1:10-15(Easy English)*

*The enticement of sinners hinges the desires of people ( especially young people) to belong to a pressure group. There is an excitement to many to be the member of group which is going against all of societies laws. Yet the warning come "my son do not go along with them".*

*It takes courage to "not set foot on their paths". But the courage is repaid by the satisfactions of knowing that you have made a stand based on your own beliefs.*

*Hold tight to good advice; don't relax your grip. Guard it well- your life is at stake! Don't take wicked by pass; don't so much as set foot on that road. Stay clear of it; give it a wide bearing. Make a detour and be on your on way*

*Proverbs 4:13-15 (Message)*

*We stand true to the Lord whether others honor us or despise us, whether*

*they criticize us or commend us. We are honest, but they call us liars'*  
 2Corinthian 6:8 (Living Bible)

## 6. Pleasing God or Man?

We have to make a choice- do we please God or man?

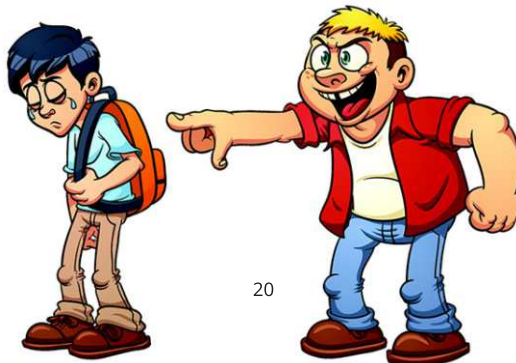
*Certainly, I am not trying to make people happy by what I am saying, No, but I am trying to do what God wants. If I were still trying to make people happy, I would not be Christ servant*  
 Galatians 1:10 (Easy English)

*Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from inside-out. Readily recognize what He wants from you and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best of you, develops well formal maturity in you.*

*Romans 12:2 (Message Bible)*

There is a lot of peer pressure to conform to the standards set by the world, and without a doubt it is possible for anyone to be caught up and absorbed into the system without everything. However, the world of today does not offer a model I wish you want to copy especially if you are a believer.

There is a different course to take which offers a much sort after model to copy. That is the path offered by Jesus Christ. His path offers eternal life.



## FRUSTRATION

*Where do you think all these appalling wars and quarrels come from? Do you think they just happen? Think again. They come about because you want your own way, and fight for it deep inside yourselves. You lust for what you don't have and are willing to kill to get it. You want what isn't yours and will risk violence to get your hands on it.*

*James 4:1 (Message Bible)*



What are the things that drive us to frustration? Make a list.

Are you

- a. Frustrated with life's problems?
- b. Frustrated with other people?
- c. Frustrated with God, feeling like He doesn't care or has abandoned you?

*So I will not be quiet. I will speak to tell you how angry I am. I will speak to say how very sad I feel. Perhaps you have to watch the animals that live in the sea. But I do not understand why you have to watch me every day. I lie down and try to rest. Perhaps my pain will be less when I am asleep. But even that you cause me to dream and that frightens me. I am afraid when I see things in the night. I WOULD RATHER DIE THAN CONTINUE A LIFE LIKE THIS. I HATE MY LIFE AND I DO NOT WANT TO LIVE ANYMORE. MY LIFE HAS NO MEANING SO LET ME DIE ALONE.*

*Job 7:1-16 (Easy English)*

### **WHAT IS FRUSRATION**

Frustration is the feeling of being upset or annoyed as a result of being unable to change or achieve something. It is the feeling one gets when things don't go as planned or expected, it is the feeling of

experiencing more disappointments often. From our opening verse James shares with us the emotional struggle and out-burst frustration, not having what you want or always been disappointed can be.

## **REASONS WHY I BELIEVE YOU ARE FRUSTRATED**

### **1. We aren't getting what we want**

Many frustrations come from simply not getting what we want. Like a child who doesn't get the toy they beg for, we often pour out stew over the things we don't have. This may include things we want to own, circumstances we want our way, or the way we want others do act. Whatever it is, frustrating grows what we demand we get it. We want control when things are out of one control.

In order to reduce frustration, we need to honestly evaluate what we want and whether or not we are implementing control to get it. Release control over getting what you think you must have and trust God wants the best for you.

### **2. We aren't getting what we need**

Each of us has various levels of different emotional and relational needs such as security, approval, safety, support etc. We were created by a relational God to need each other and be the means of providing these needs for each other. When our needs go unmet in this broken world, we might try to take from others in order to fulfill the longing inside of us. However, God never meant for us to take in order to get our needs met.

When others fail their part or when we fail to do ours, it is painful. It's not a part of God's plan yet, God gives us the option to meet needs of others anyway. Ultimately, our greatest need is God, while his plan includes earthly relationships to care for our basic needs, our needs can only be perfectly fulfilled through our Heavenly Father.

My friends God desires to fulfill your needs supernaturally through Him, trust that God knows your needs and is able to fulfill them.

### 3. We have unhealthy expectations

Sometimes we are frustrated because others don't meet our expectations, such as when we expect a child to perform a chore in the way he believes it should be done.

When they don't meet our expectations, we get frustrated, we experience frustration from not having communicated our expectations clearly, or getting agreement from others about what those expectations should be.



In addition, our expectations may need to be lowered in order to see incremental steps towards an end goal, rather than expecting ourselves or others to jump from beginning to end.

So re-evaluate your expectations in light of the needs and wants of others. Trust God's wisdom to reveal needed adjustments to expectations.

### 4. We have unhealthy boundaries

For some reasons I thought that the way to be a good Christian was to accept what others wanted, regardless of my own conviction and needs. I was tossed to and fro by the whims of others and didn't realize how healthy boundaries were a part of healthy living.

Boundaries help us identify what belongs to us and help us identify what belongs to others, such as feelings, desires, thoughts and behaviours. When we don't have healthy boundaries, we either take on other people's attitudes and actions as our responsibility or we try to put ours unto them. Both are damaging to the individual and relationships.

### 5. We have uncured hurts

Sometimes, we are just plain hurting. This may be from recent event or something much farther back. Out of our hurt, we provide comfort,



initiate conviction and to bring about redemption.

I'll encourage you to spend time in prayer and talking to God. Ask Him to reveal uncured hurts. Ask Him to tend to those places regularly. Also trust God that he knows your hurts and cares for them deeply.

*You wouldn't think of just asking God for it, would you? And why not? Because you know you'd be asking for what you have no right to.*

*James 4:2-3 (Message Bible)*

*Trust God from the bottom of your heart, don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go. He's the one who will keep you on track. Don't assume that you know it all. Run to God! Run from evil.*

*Proverbs 3:5-7 (Message Bible)*

*Casting the whole of your care (all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all) on Him, for He cares for you affectionately and cares about you watchfully*

*1 Peter 5:7 (Amplified)*





# OBLIQUE MIND

*"Let this mind be in you, which was also  
in Christ Jesus"  
Philippians 2:5*



**O**blique means something not erect or perpendicular, neither parallel to, nor at right angles from the base, slanting and inclined.

An oblique mind is therefore not straightforward, it is indirect, obscure, a falsehood uttered or acted for the purpose of deception, an intentional violation of truth.

It is a mind which is proposed or purposed to mislead or disappoint people. An oblique mind therefore is a twisted mind.

One day, as I was in intercession, praying I had a quick vision. In the vision, I saw someone tried to a stick like tree, but he was not tied with a rope, but a snake and the snake tied him round and the head and face of the snake stood up facing me, as though it was looking at me.

As I prayed asking the Lord to give me understanding in regards to the vision I had, praise be to the name of the Lord, God gave me understanding to the vision.

The serpent is a system of self deception, self temptation, self invocation and self provocation. Watch out for this current trap, which thinks and maybe says "nothing can happen to me, even if I am dancing between life and death, I can't die". This is the major step to death, a death caused by accident, a death that is a mistake, a death which was careless. Watch out for self deception, taking life our

gradually, taking your interest for the Lord and the work of the ministry out gradually, making you feel you can handle it, you are in charge, nothing can go out of control.

The serpent is a system also of self will, self independence, a good idea or plan, that looks humanly smart, but ungodly, not God's will, and by the time you know it, it has you already, you become useless. It is also the spirit of insurgence, of accusations, of rebellion and pride waiting to strike.

Stephen pray against this kind of spirit that is already around about to take people away. But there is nothing to fear, Stephen thwart their plan, destroy their stronghold, weaken their logical reasoning.

*Let not person deceive himself. If anyone among you supposes that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool (let him discard his worldly discernment and recognize himself as dull, stupid, and foolish, without true learning and scholarship), that he may become (really) wise.*

*1 Corinthian 3:13 (Amp)*

*But I am afraid that you might become like Eve. The snake told her things that were not true. And, because he was clever, she believed him. And I am afraid that you might start to believe wrong ideas too. So then, as a result, you might stop believing and loving only Christ.*

*2 Corinthian 11:3 (Easy English)*

I strongly believe that this is a well calculated scheme the devil is using to easily deceive young minds. I believe that by exposing is strategy, we can fight a good warfare, and win effortlessly.

God encourages us in His word to have a certain kind of mind (Philippians 2:5). This means, there are other kinds of minds at our disposal, and the Lord is encouraging us to have the mind that Jesus Christ had. I'll love to share with you my understanding on three kinds of mind that are oblique or twisted and God strongly discourages us from them.

### THREE KINDS OF MIND

*That kind of wisdom does not come from above. NO, it is worldy, self centered and demonic. James 3:15*

Just as there are distinct attributes, personalities, functions, manifestations, gifts and graces of the individual God-head (God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit) as revealed in the scriptures (lack of space would not permit me to explain further). So also Satan has distinct manifestations, functions and attributes to deceive, destroy, kill and oppress people.



In the above scripture I'll highlight three of this demonic weapons, which are mind weapons to deceive and eventually destroy people.

#### 1. Worldliness:

*Stop loving this evil world and all that it offers you, for when you love these things you show that you do not really love God; for all these worldly things, these evil desires, the crave for sex, the ambition to buy everything that appeals to you, and the pride that comes from wealth and importance – these are not from God. They are from this evil world itself  
1John 2:15-16 (Living Bible)*

*The thorny ground represents the hearts of people who listen to the Good news and receive it, but all too quickly the attractions of this world and the delights of wealth, and the search for success lure of nice things, love in and crowd out God's message from their hearts, so that no crop is produced*

*Mark 4:18-19 (Living Bible)*

*You are like an unfaithful wife who loves her husband enemies. Don't you realize that making friends with God's enemies- the evil pleasures of this world- makes you an enemy of God? I say it again, that if your aim is to*

*enjoy the evil pleasure of the unsaved world, you cannot also be a friend of God.*

*James 4:4 (Living Bible)*

*For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people. It trains us to renounce ungodly living and worldly passions so that we might live sensible, honest and godly lives in the present ages*

*Titus 2:11-12 (ISV)*

One of the most amazing things, I love about the scriptures, is that it explains itself, it is self-explanatory. I am sure that from the highlighted scriptures above, your questions of what is world? What does the world offer than what Christ has to offer, so you claim to be born-again, maybe spirit-filled, but you enjoy having unbelievers as your friends, if we ask why, you may possibly say, they are fun to be with, they are not hypocrites like your people in church or the house, but realize that is just what the devil who is the father of all hypocrites wants you to see and think.

You say you want to be spiritual, you want to know God, but your phone is filled with songs that aroused sexual or emotional feelings, songs that fully go against the teachings of the bible and your morality. But if we tell you to delete it, you may say gospel songs are out-dated, old-fashioned, but these kinds of worldly songs give you inspiration.

You say you are a child of God, but you have practically dressed yourself like a gangster or a prostitute, in fact, you admire such trending fashion and maybe buy them rather than give to the work of the Lord, when corrected you might say "God looks at the heart"

All these are just a clever trick from the devil to get you in opposition to God and His kingdom, take the advice of the scripture above and resist the attempt of the devil in manipulating your mind and heart away from God.

## 2. Oblique demons

Our opponent, shrewd and subtle as he is (Genesis 3:1) is not continued to one role or method of attack. A survey of scriptures reveals many kinds of operations against the people of God. If they successfully defeated the adversary in one of his schemes, he would come against them at a later time with another tactic. Jesus exhorted his followers to be “wise as serpents” (Matthew 10:16) show that serpents do have a substantial level of intelligence.



As I studied the word to find out more about the enemy of whom Paul said we are not to be ignorant ( 1 Corinthian 2:11). I slowly become aware that Satan has three primary roles of attack against the believer. If one method does not succeed against a Christian, often another form of attack will succeed. These three primary roles are:

- a. The tempter
- b. The deceiver
- c. The accuser

### 1. The tempter

The first time we see Satan approaching mankind he comes to our first parents in the role of the tempter. The serpent tempted Eve with “ Yea, have God said? (Genesis 3:1). It was in the role that our Lord Jesus encountered him in their first recorded confrontation.

*And when the tempter came to him, he said, if thou be the son of God.....  
Matthew 4:3*

Evidently the early Christians were aware of this term and this tactic also for Paul wrote.

*For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith,*

*lest by some means the tempter have tempted you and our labour be in vain*

*1 Thessalonians 3:5*

Although the tempter's attacks are very real and sometimes successful in defeating a believer, temptation is the devil's first method of attack and actually the weakest of the three primary roles he uses in assaulting the Christian. Jesus easily overcame this role with single quotations of solitary sentences from the book of Deuteronomy. He did not use a lot of scripture when the tempter came against him. Single stabs with the sword of the spirit defeated all three areas of temptation the devil brought against Jesus.

## **2. The Deceiver**

For far more believers are harmed by the adversary when he comes as the deceiver than they are when he comes as the tempter. This is a higher realm of attack and much more subtle than the previous one. Paul was referring to this second method in 2 Corinthians 11:14-15, when after shocking them with the fact that many of their apostles were actually false, he said *"and no more (surprise) for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works"*

Paul taught that even as false ministers appeared as true ministers, so also Satan can masquerade himself as a true angel of God. God is light and His angels are angels of light. Satan, in his actual state is an angel of darkness.

He is however, able to disguise himself as an angel of light. (The King James version is a little obscure and misleading in the phrase "transformed into an angel of light" The word "transformed" is better rendered "disguised" as more recent versions point out)

I do not believe Satan can actually change himself into an angel of light. I most definitely believe that Satan can and does disguise



himself as an angel of light. The purpose of coming to a person in the role of a deceiver is to trick the individual into accepting the false for the true.

The deceiver delights in distorting the truth of the word, and he showed that in Matthew 4:6. When he twisted the clear meaning of Psalm 91:11-12.

Most of you reading these words have known the presence of the tempter and the approach of the deceiver.

### 3. The Accuser

We now come to the devil's third, and I think strongest form of attack. "The devil" in the greek word Diabolos and means "one who prosecutes as in a court room; a slander". "Satan" primarily means "adversary" and secondly means "Accuser- one who resists." . This role as the accuser is the probably the hardest to discern and overcome. Often we unknowingly become tools through whom the accuser can work.

I remember listening to a message preached by a great man of God, where he shared a story about one of his pastor friend, who was praying and suddenly the Lord stopped him and told him plainly " you are talking like the devil, you remind me of him" The pastor stopped shocked at the Lord's statement, so He asked "Lord how am I talking like the devil?". The Lord replied "you are complaining about this situation, murmuring about this issue, you are accusing and criticizing so and so person, this is exactly what the devil does. The pastor repented.



When Satan appears as the tempter, his presence is very obvious. When he comes as a deceiver, his presence is usually not quite obvious, however, when he comes as the accuser, we sometimes not only fail to discern satan's voice, we may even mistake it for the voice

of God! At that point we are deceived and most likely will yield to the tempter to pass carnal judgment on a fellow beloved.

## HOW THE ACCUSER OPERATES

I have found three ways that satan operates as the accuser.

1. *Satan accuses the believer to God, and accuses God to the believer*

*And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. And the Lord said unto Satan, the Lord rebuke thee, O Satan; even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee. Is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?*

*Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments and stood before the angel  
Zechariah 3:1-3*

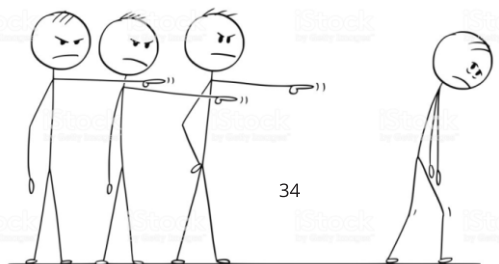
### 2. Satan accuses other Christians to a believer

Sadly, we often fail to discern this. We look upon a brother in the Lord and immediately judge him by the eye. This is what Jesus referred to as "an evil eye" (Mark 9:19-24) which is grouped along with adultery, fornication and murder. This operation accounts for the great suspicion, distrust, faultfinding and criticism which exist within the body of Christ.

### 3. Satan accuses a believer to himself

Even after a believer exercises true repentance over a sin and sincerely asks the Lord to forgive him, the accuser will attack with condemnation and guilt. Often I pray with Christians who have lived with guilt and burdens of condemnation for years and years. How happy I am to show them it is Satan who condemns and not God.

**(For more understanding or study please order my book *Pinky and the Brain*, read chapter 4 part 4 on *Delusions.....* use the contact information at the back of the book.)**





*Above everything else guard your heart  
because from it flow the springs of life  
Proverbs 4:23 (ISV)*

*Keep vigilant watch over your heart that's  
where life starts  
Proverbs 4:23 ( Message Bible)*



**T**he heart is the beginning of every enterprise one intends to carry out in life, the heart is the reason for the war or conflict in heaven, in hell and on earth.

God wants your heart, Satan called the devil wants your heart.

Whoever smites your heart, smites you, whoever captures your heart captures you. The heart of man is the seat of every spiritual transaction either good or evil. This is the reason God warns us, God encourages us to guard our heart.

It was recently I noticed the subtle battle going on, unnoticed to most insensitive believers, the battle not for their prosperity, education, clothing or marital relationships but for their hearts. My friends somebody is trying to gain entrance of your heart.

The heart as rightly said above is the beginning of every or any enterprise. This means, your heart is the controlling power, it is the wheel of your life, every decision you make right now, every direction you move into, every individual you give ear to can only happen because your heart has or is being driven or lorded by someone else. By God or the devil.

It is obvious if you are a student of the scripture that God always sees

first, not a man or his service, neither his possession nor is intelligence but God seeks first his heart.

*And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually*  
Genesis 11:20

*But O Lord of host, that judgest righteously, that triest the reins and the earth*  
Jeremiah 11:20

*The Lord search the heart, I try the reins even to give everyman according to his works and according to the fruit of his doings*  
Jeremiah 17:10

I can list out more scripture where God meticulously went straight to the heart of men to see who is charge of the heart, He or the devil? My friends just as God is seeking for a heart to Lord over, to direct, to influence, the devil is also desperately trying to influence, lord over and pervert the heart.

*Then Satan put a bad idea into David's mind. The idea was to count all the men in Israel.*  
1 Chronicle 21:1 (Easy English)

*When a corrupting spirit is expelled from some-one, it drifts along through the desert looking for an Oasis, some unsuspecting soul it can bedevil. When it doesn't find anyone, it says, "I'll go back to my old house" on return, it finds the person swept and dusted, but vacant. It then runs out and rounds up seven other spirits dirtier than itself and they all move in whooping it up. That person ends up far worse than if he'd*



*never soften cleaned up in the first place.*

*Luke 17:24-26 (Message Bible)*

*Not everyone can understand the good news that we tell. People who are dying because they are far from God cannot understand it. Those people do not believe it, because the god of this world has kept their minds in the dark. He stops them from seeing the light. Christ is completely like God  
2 Corinthian 4:3-4 (Easy English)*

From the three scriptures, we can see the personality behind the personality behind the scene of the actions and thoughts of men, and we realize the devil also seeks this. Why?! Because for thousands of years now, Satan has declared himself to be the arch enemy of God in words and in deeds. So watch out, he might just be close to your heart than you think.

### THE VOICE

*And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord amongst the trees of the garden. And the Lord God called unto Adam and said unto him. Where are thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. And he said, WHO TOLD thee that thou wast naked?*

*Genesis 3:8-11a*

When God has successfully capture your heart, when he has given you the heart of flesh and taken away the heart of stone and he has put his spirit within you. (Ezekiel 11:19-20), He quickens your spirit to become alive to serve Him honestly, truthfully and righteously. But, he will also present by supernatural means, a voice, just like you, who he will use to also watch out for you outwardly, but inwardly.

*I'll give you shepherd after my own heart, and they'll shepherd you with knowledge and good sense.*

*Jeremiah 3:15 (ISV)*

*And though the Lord will give you the bread of trouble and the water of grieve, you will no longer put your teacher on one side, but you will see your teacher. And at your back, when you are turning to the right hand or the left, a voice will be sounding in your ears, saying this is the way in which you are to go.*

*Isaiah 30:20-21 (BBE)*

*Be responsive to your pastoral leaders. Listen to their counsel. They are alert to the **CONDITION** of your lives **AND WORK UNDER THE STRICT** supervision of God. Contribute to the joy of their leadership, not his drudgery. Why would you want to make things harder for them?*

*Hebrews 13:17 (Message Bible)*

I have outlined three scriptures that I believe explains and support my statement that God not only gave us his Holy Spirit and a cleansed conscience but He gave us human voices, He Himself choose for us, we can or could never have chosen them out of our own admiration, intelligence but by His divine power.



The human voice note I did not say voices (Isaiah 51:2) are the ones supernaturally enabled and charged with the wisdom, revelation and power their voice to guide, discipline and restrict you from going off or doing unscriptural things. It is their duty to partner with the Holy Spirit to keep you in check and in his perfect will for your life in all ramification of your life.

(For further understanding and study of this please order for my book Spiritual Fatherhood, use the contact at the back of the book to reach us)

Realize that just as the Lord has placed a human voice in your life to

guide your heart and life so also the devil sends his own human voice to distract, to deceive, to harden, to cool off your love for God, your hunger and respect to continually listen to that human voice God has placed in your heart and life.

Notice, when Adam told God he was naked, God did not ask him how did you know, He asked him *who told you*, in essence what other voice has gained entrance into your heart, what other voice is feeding you with knowledge, what other voice is influencing and guiding your mind and life.

*There it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world and NONE OF THEM ARE WITHOUT SIGNIFICATION*

*1 Corinthian 14:10*

Jesus Christ knowing and realizing the same thing I am trying to explain quickly silenced the devil who was trying to advise him, and sort of convince Him Jesus not to die on the cross, through Peter.

*From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and be raised again the third day. Then Peter took him and began to rebuke him, saying be if far from thee Lord. This shall not be unto thee but he turned and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan; Thou art an offence unto me for thou savourest not the things of God but those that be of men.*

*Matthew 16:21-23*

Jesus was not naïve or ignorant of the intentions and voice of the devil, so he quickly responded by shunning him.

My brothers and sisters, lack of space will not make me continue to explain the importance of a voice in the caretaking of your heart. Be fully assured that if your heart has been capture by God, God will put



human voice to steer and drive the course of your heart. This heart don't forget is also a target for the devil. *SO WATCH OUT.*

### HEART CHECK

*Test yourselves to make sure you are solid in the faith. Don't drift along taking everything for granted. Give yourselves regular check-ups. You need first hand evidence, not mere hearsay, that Jesus Christ is in you. Test it out. If you fail the test do something about it.*

*2 Corinthian 13:5 (Message Bible)*

In conclusion of this topic guard your heart, and our overall discussion on miracle-us, the evilizing power of anger, offence, peer pressure and frustration.

I want you to consider and ask yourself what have I allowed into my heart, what is influencing my decisions, what am I feeding my actions on.

Don't overlook these questions, they certainly will put the devil back to bar in your life and stop this manipulation from ever affecting you. The devil seeks all avenues to pollute your heart. To be the driver of your heart and consequently your life.

*Work at getting along with each other and with God, otherwise you'll never get so much as a glimpse of God. Make sure no one gets left out of God's generosity. Keep a sharp eye out for weeds of bitter discontent. A thistle or two gone to seed can ruin a whole garden in no time. Watch out for the Esau Syndrome: trading away God's life long gift in order to satisfy a short term appetite. You know how Esau later regretted that impulsive act and wanted God's blessing but by then it was too late, tears or no tears.*

*Hebrew 12:14-17 (Message Bible)*

Don't allow offence, bitterness, anger, peer-pressure and frustration dampen your heart.

Don't have a stubborn heart against God's voice either through His

Holy Spirit, or the scripture or the human voice (spiritual father) He has placed in your heart.

*Beware then of your own hearts, dear brothers, lest you find that they, too, are evil and unbelieving and are leading you away from the living God. Speak to each other about these things everyday while there is still time so that none of you will become hardened against God, being blinded by the glamour of sin.*

*Hebrews 3:13-13 (Living Bible)*

Don't have a reprobate heart, after you been taught the word of God, after the Holy-spirit has convicted you, or after your spiritual father has corrected you.

*And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind; to do these things which are not convenient.*

*Roman 1:28*

Don't continually push the conviction of the Holy-Spirit, don't continually ignore the teachings of the scripture, Don't continually rebel against the voice of your Spiritual father.

*With faith and a good conscience. By ignoring their consciousness, some people have destroyed their faith like a wretched ship. These include Hymenaeus and Alexander whom I handed over to Satan so that they may learn not to blaspheme*

*1 Timothy 1:19-20 (ISV)*

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1. Phobias  
Movie Recommendation: The Aviator (2004),
2. What is Phobia and Types of Phobias
3. Obsession: Dark Desire  
Movie Recommendations: Fan, Crush (2013)

### Chapter 3

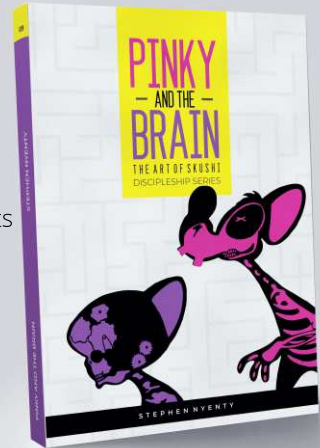
1. Personality Disorder
2. Paranoid Personality Disorder
3. Borderline Personality Disorder
4. Obsessive Compulsive Personality Disorder
5. Histrionic Personality Disorder  
Movie Recommendation: Monster (2003)

### Chapter 4

1. Mental Disorder
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3. Sexual Disorder (Addiction)  
Movie Recommendation: Addicted (2014)
4. Schizophrenia  
Movie Recommendation: Acrimony (2018)

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1. Mad Man of Gadara, the Way Out

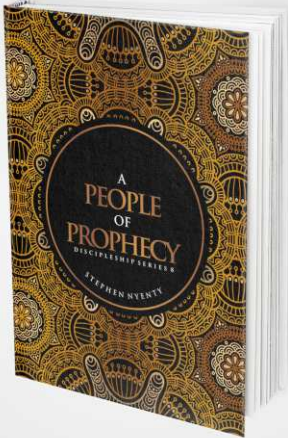


Be it known unto you friends, that most of what I have written in this book have not just come from my desire to write a book but from a desire and experience dealing with hundreds of young people for over ten years.

I ache in my heart for those who suffer unnecessarily under the yoke of fear, personality disorder and mental illnesses the enemy has placed on them.

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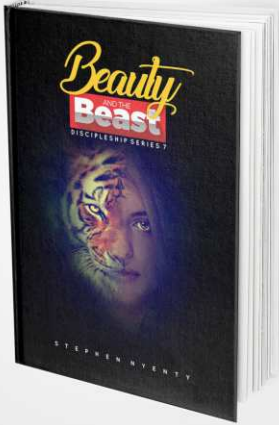
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11. Consider

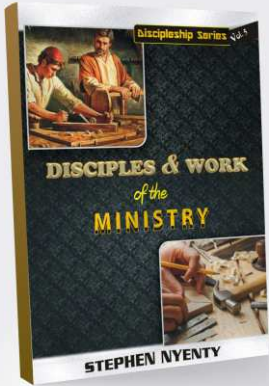
Have you ever been frustrated by the actions/characters of people around you? You just do not seem to understand why “you” always seem to go down in all facets of life no matter how hard you try.

This book is inspired by past events I have experienced. Experiences that has eaten people up like canker-worm. We have good, passionate and spiritual Christians, but looking through the dark glass, you would find out they are struggling with one ore more moral defects or diverse character flaw.

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*If you are saying you are not going to work for God or do anything for Him until you receive a gift, then there is a possibility that even when the gifts comes you would not fully utilize it to produce results and growth to the maximum.*



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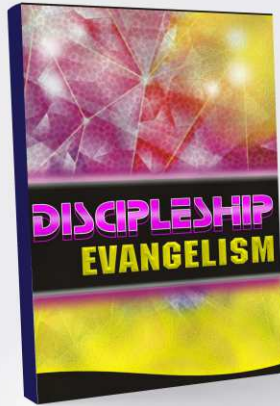
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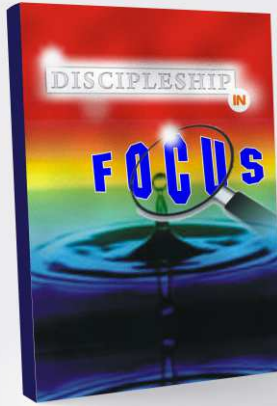
Eternal life is not achieved, it is a gift that is given to us by God, not when we die and go to Heaven, but while we are here on earth. The nature of God is deeper than we think or “know” it is and this can only be discovered through “deep” relationship with and devotion to the Word of God..

This book is embedded with topics that would help you remain steadfast in God...topics like Repentance, Commitment, God’s not Guilty, What happens when a Christian Sin, The Power of a Spirit-Filled life, How to receive the Holy Spirit, The benefits of speaking in tongues, Forgiving Others.

This book is filled with topics to help every believer stay on fire for God irrespective of you level of Faith in God. Deep study of this book will also help you understand the proper use of God’s Law, the fruit of salvation, a call to discipleship and many more!

Stay blessed as you read.

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## DISCIPLESHIP IN FOCUS

*Go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations! (Mat. 28:19)*

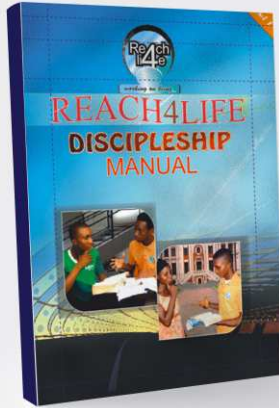
This is the golden message that all of Christianity stands on, but today, the message has been completely watered down. The baton of discipleship has been passed from generations to generations continually until now.

This book is the necessary tool for every disciple to understand what it really means to be a Disciple of Jesus Christ not just being a believer who would rather hide under the umbrella of “Cheap Grace”.

In this classic book, Stephen Nyenty teaches on how Discipleship is God’s way of making replacement sons.

With very simplified insightful words to suit everyone from all phases of life, this book is strictly focused on leading you to the Cross and nowhere else.

# OTHER BOOKS BY STEPHEN NYENTY



## DISCIPLESHIP MANUAL

After that Glorious Message you heard in Church, your heart was moved by it! your spirit was touched by it! and then, you give your life to Jesus Christ. Excited by your new life, you storm out of the Church with fire in your bones only to realize later on that the world which you would have to live in is very different from the Church. The same things you “thought” should change the moment you give your life to Christ still remains the same.

You still lie, you still lust, you are still covetous, you still hate, you still backbite, you are still your very self. Then you say to yourself “I am not born again!” OF COURSE YOU ARE! Once you have given made confession with your mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of your life, you are fine!

This book is written to enable “the new you” live an eternal life in Christ here on earth, help you understand your spirit, soul and body, how to hear from God, the gift of the Holy Spirit, Righteousness, Faith, The believer’s authority and many more.

Stay blessed as you read!

# MIRACLE -US

In this classic book, Stephen Nyenty teaches on how through experience he has discovered how whatever humans let into their heart determine how much control the devil has over their lives. With Biblical and literary references, the subject is made even more relevant to every kind of reader.

## STEPHEN NYENTY

Stephen Nyenty is the founder of Reach4life Discipleship Ministry spanning over 9 years of practical, biblical discipleship. He is a teacher and a proven Prophetic Minister of God.

He is the author of the Discipleship Book Series including the bestseller Beauty and the Beast.. The Reach4life Discipleship Ministry has branches of her teaching and training centers nationwide.

Stephen Nyenty conducts three (3) major event per year, namely Prophetic Encouter Outreach, Word and Prophetic Seminar and National Prayer Day. He has a large crowd of youth and teens attend these events with testimonies of salvation, healing, prophetic ministration and a changed life.

