



DATE: 19th October 2023

Halleluiah!

• ***Very quietly, ten, ten, if you are number eleven today, go and sit down. Tomorrow is another day. And please, pray briefly, with all your might.***

Why would I take this approach? If I want something, I should learn. If somebody is already close to this person, I can learn. Is it wrong to learn?

If you really want something, find out how to get it. If you want growth in numbers, and you want it from God, find out the kind of people that God gave numbers before you. And if possible, why God gave them the numbers.

I took a human experience just to show you how foolish people can be. I even find it with my girls around me. A young man comes to marry your daughter, and does everything not to get close to you who already have her, he believes in himself so much that he believes that from zero, [he can win her,] so he will spend all his time making mistakes. I believe that one of the curses of wicked people is that God does not give them even simple wisdom to know who to learn from.

Many years ago, Brother Philip from England came to Nigeria, I think brother Zach had blown my trumpet too much that I was a good servant and I think, brother Philip believed that it was humility to come. So, brother Philip came to Lagos, he told me: Brother Theodore, I would like you to teach me how to be a good servant like you to brother Zach. I told him: you left London to come and ask me that one. He said: Yes.

I told him: you don't want to learn how to serve him. I said: you are sleeping with the knowledge of serving brother Zach in your bedroom and you left London to come. I said: you don't want to learn. You are sleeping with the daughter who served her father the most. I wish you sent me that money so that I can "chop"(eat). I said: go back to London, the school is inside your bedroom. Halleluiah!

And it was true. It is not because his wife is brother Zach's daughter, but because she was actually a servant of brother Zach. If he wanted to learn, he would have learnt. But when you paid a big plane ticket, It looks as if one is spiritual, because if you ask from your wife, it does not look so spiritual. It will even make as if she knows something that you don't know, but our wives know many things that we don't know. If you and your wife were in the same class, many you would have been far behind when she was first, but when she becomes your wife, you make as if you are essentially superior to her because her name is wife and your own name is the "horse that has been bound".

If you really want something, you can learn how to get it.

• ***Please, I want just three people to pray, so that God will bless us with simple wisdom.***

For many of us, we don't even know that when we marry a woman, her body is yours, all her intelligence is for you, all her diplomas are for you. Was the bride price only for the body. But most men, as soon as they get married, they just want the body and the money. And all her baggage, all her education, he doesn't even explore. We



prepare the sauce for someone; he leaves the meat and drink the soup. Pride makes people stupid. Your wife knows English, you take the microphone and you go up to the stage and you speak broken English, meanwhile you sleep with the dictionary. It's like a curse, you have something and you're searching. You've got it and you're confused.

There are pastors who have resource people and who turn around, instead of asking resource people in the field in which they are competent. It is as if that would mean they have lost the anointing, it means that God is no longer speaking to them, they are no longer receiving revelations directly from God. But even Moses, who was speaking face to face with God, said to the son of Jethro, "Stay with us, you know the desert." (see Numbers 10:29-31)

If you really want something, you can find out how to get it.

Sister Adela was normally a very frugal wife, she spends very sensibly, but we adopted a daughter in Lagos: Esther. When Esther got into our family, Esther had an anointing to buy things cheap. Adela left her the kitchen and the cost of our expenditure at home came down to 1/3. It is not education. Who knows what I am talking about? If you have it, you have it. Give Esther ten thousand, give Priscilla ten thousand, give Messina ten thousand, sent the three of them to the market to buy the same thing, Uddy's one will be three times their own, and better quality. Same amount of money, the same shopping list and they will produce different results, just because she has the capacity.

We enjoyed effective management of the kitchen and unusual generosity because she could handle a certain amount of money.

Fifteen years ago, I was studying the bible for church growth, because I was tired of small numbers in my work on the mission field. So I started underlining where God says: and your number shall multiply or I shall give you numbers. When I finished the Old Testament, I was astonished because the matter of growth in numbers, sustainable growth in numbers and growth in the quality of that which multiplies, came down to two basic things: the blessing of God and the blessing of man. The matter of numbers in the Old Testament comes down to the issue of blessing. Where God blesses and where man blesses. And it comes down to the issue of obedience.

If you obey me, I will multiply your numbers until you fill the earth. Numbers in Genesis 1 was tied to the blessing. He blessed them and said, "Multiply." Genesis 8, with Noah, He blessed them and said, "Multiply." With the animals, He blessed them and said: multiply. Right down to Chronicles, about Shimei, he said: God blessed him according to his promise and gave him sixteen sons. (1Chronicles 4:27) Whenever it has to do with numbers, it was tied to blessing. That is why the people of the Old Testament sought blessing with their lives.

The burden of this fast is about:

**HOW DO WE KEEP OUR NUMBERS AND HOW DO WE MULTIPLY?**



I will not call people all over the world to fast if I didn't believe the things that we are saying, and I truly want us to leave behind our satisfaction, our success. Because how can people who are already satisfied have the curiosity to know what it takes for an explosion?

**• Come and pray that truly, God will deliver us from being carried away by the little success we have already had. That from the heart, we would truly be delivered.**

When God blessed Adam, it was accompanied with multiplication.

Noah, the same. He told Abraham that he will bless him and that he will become the father of many nations.

Abraham's life is a school on how to go from one to many nations. God led Abraham into the factors for becoming a nation and nations. God made Abraham 'blessable'. "Leave your country, I will bless you".

And led Abraham from one obedience to the other. Abraham fulfilled the conditions for numbers. And we can learn from him.

But the matter of large numbers that God gives is tied to the blessing of God the blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and there are no sorrow to it. It is the blessing of the Lord that multiplies, and those who want to grow in a sustainable way must learn how to have the blessing of the Lord.

In many of the things that brother Zach incorporated in our walk with God are the vectors of blessing. It is to make us the kind of people that God can multiply without self-contradiction, as he did with Abraham.

In the New Testament, in the book of Acts, when the church started, there are many instances at the beginning of the book of Acts where the numbers of the church multiplied geometrically, and there are a number of factors each time that produced that growth in numbers.

In chapter 2, it was Pentecost. In one day, they went from 120 to 3120. Only one thing had changed: they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

In chapter 4, the bible says: in one go, five thousand men, not counting women became part of the church. And the bible attributes that growth to one thing: miracles.

So, we find Pentecost as a factor of growth. And miracles are a factor of growth. Brother Zach calls such miracles: evangelistic miracles. The kind of miracles that produce large numbers.

In chapter 5, another great increase in numbers. And the bible attributes it to one factor: Holiness in the church. Ananias and Saphira died, judged by God and the numbers increased.

In chapter 6, the bible talks again about massive growth, explosions again, and explains the reason: it was the organization of the church. More leaders were appointed. And the bible says: and Word of God spread and large numbers believed.

So, even if we just look at the growth and then, you ask yourself: what are they telling us about these particular growths they are mentioning? What? We will learn, if we want to learn.



So, even the growth of the church had many different factors, and over the last fourteen years, I have led the brethren to fast for one vector after the other. We fasted and prayed for miracles. We fasted and prayed for faith.

We fasted and prayed in 2009 for Pentecost.

We fasted and prayed for holiness, faithfulness, so that we may be the kind of people that God can give numbers to.

In this fast, we are carrying one of those vectors, that will lead to growth and that will maintain growth: a large number of other leaders. That God will raise a large number of leaders, to maintain the growth that he had given to us, and launch us into continuing growth for larger numbers.

We want to cry out to God to raise many leaders, so that the numbers that we already have can be kept, and so that we can grow.

We want to cry to God to give us an army of leaders to preserve [the harvest.] Pentecost brings numbers. Persecution brings numbers, miracles bring numbers but for this fast, we want to ask God for numbers of leaders, to maintain the numbers that already exist, and so that, we can explode.

**Acts 6:1-6**  
***In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among***

***them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. 2 So the Twelve gathered all the***

***disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. 3 Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." 5 This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. 6 They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. NIV***

Verse 1: The number of disciples was already great. The church organized to raise up more leaders. They added seven new ones to the twelve that were already there. The result: more growth and new breakthroughs. People who didn't believe like the priests, the Pharisees, faith had a breakthrough to another category of people because the new leaders brought something to the gospel that broke through the barriers of faith. The quality itself had changed.

From the growth of verse 1 to the growth of verse 7, only one factor has changed: the number of leaders has increased.

A good number of new leaders, filled with the Holy Spirit were raised, look at what happened: There was already growth that brought problems. The new leaders made sure that the growth that already existed was maintained and that more growth came.

***• Pray that God should break this atmosphere that seems to block understanding.***



We have seen growth, we're at 5 million. But, as long as the former leaders are happy, in spite of all the disorder that can happen; as long as they are happy to keep their posts, we have reached the limit. If we are to move forward, the current leaders must confront the fact that there are many problems for which they are not adequate.

There are a lot of people who need advice, training, guidance, and as long as we're happy: "I am here, I'm the one who is in charge," even if the people under us don't receive the ministry that meets their needs because we are there, and we're keeping our status quo; then CMFI will have plateaued.

The apostles had the humility to admit that it was growth that brought all this disorder. Administrative problems arose because of growth, and they were not too proud to say, 'We are apostles, you who murmur, are disloyal, you will be excommunicated;' because murmuring is an indication of the limitation of rulers. The thought that: as long as we're there, it is enough, comes from the devil, and it comes from dishonesty, because you're not confronting the fact that even though you're there, there are needs that you don't touch. If we're not honest enough, we're still simple African chiefs who are content only with their palaces.

But spiritual leadership is not like that. Were they Apostles? Full of the Holy Spirit? Having power? Did they work miracles? Despite all the miracles, their apostolic calling, more leaders were needed. Who has understood it? It wasn't that they had backslid, that they lacked something. However, with all the miracles that accompanied their ministries,

more leaders were needed. They had reached an impasse where to breakthrough it was a matter of more leaders. They didn't set up a system: A Nehemiah's committee to deal with it. Systems don't make you grow.

How was the church organized? by raising more leaders. And qualified leaders – we will see that later. We can appoint people who, like Jethro, meet no need. Jethro advised Moses to appoint the people; he did, but were the needs met? Because the people who are to be leaders are people who are full of the Holy Spirit and have spiritual gifts. People who are full of the Holy Spirit and have spiritual gifts.

But for today, I'm not going to get into the qualifications of spiritual leaders in the church.

There was growth and the problems that followed growth. And to overcome this roadblock, more leaders had to be raised and the growth that took place was maintained and there were more leaders with more efficiency and a breakthrough.

So, either we will plateau and tend towards anachronism and we will begin to organize, systematize, fossilize and become extinct.

But if we you have to stay manly, so that the growth we have had so far is something we can handle; the key to breaking the deadlock is: more leaders: Either that or we plateau. And if we plateau, we're not going to stay at the same level, we're going to backslide, reduce, create more control systems. Systematization will produce a reductionism that will produce spiritual death; that will promote militant



selfishness. This will produce people who will be greatly wounded; and the wounded people are going to leave and the ministry is going to die and become anachronistic, a fossil and one day they are going to say, "Once upon a time, there was a Zach Fomum ministry."

One of the burdens that drives me is what is manifesting tonight, which is that in the midst of all our joy, we do not yet see what we need. But the present leaders must be like the apostles, they must remove the blockade on the flourishing of our movement, and this blockade, first of all, who is it? First of all, it is them. They are the ones who have to admit that there are a lot of needs that reflect the fact that the numbers are showing the limits of their current leadership.

If they hadn't added the seven, even their apostolate wouldn't handle the problems. So even promoting their leadership as apostles required that they have more leaders.

- ***Pray that God will do something.***
- ***Pray that the current leaders will be committed to our vision, that they will love our***

***vision, that they will believe Brother Zach and what God has given him for us, as being for him and for us, that they will take ownership of this ministry as their own.***

We need leaders to love our ministry. It is because the apostles loved the advancement of the work in their hands that they created space, saying, "This matter is beyond our limits." They said, "Let us create room."

- ***Let us pray for leaders who love our vision more than their name.***

Unless God does something, it is our hearts that will lead to our failure. Are we ready to have people like Stephen who can preach to some people the apostles were not able to preach to? Stephen was bringing another level of the gospel – intellectual discussions and apologetics. His ministry was different, yet the Lord Jesus stood up to welcome him. One may ask, "Where are his converts?" nevertheless, God raises new co-workers who don't do things the conventional way.

- *Pray that our leaders will be committed to our vision.*
- *Pray that God will carry us into the burden of the fast and that we will*  
*develop it.*
- *Pray for myself and my translator; pray that the ministry of the word will be easy.*