

VOL 1, ISSUE 6

# EMPOWERED

DECEMBER 2024

A NEWSLETTER OF HAGGAI NIGERIA

HAGGAI  
NIGERIA

***This Same***  
***JESUS***



**The Clarion Call**  
*...With Abiodun Fijabi*



“Can I say something?” He said in a soothing voice, even though his diction was suspect. But what he lacked in diction he made up for in compassion. His smiles were as broad as they were genuine. I loved and hated him with equal passion.

Whatever my opinion about him was, he had earned the right to be heard. In the last forty minutes he had watched me in my attempt to decimate his colleagues; brothers and sisters whose only crime was that they dared to tell me about Jesus. It was in March of 1976 in a fast food joint in the campus of the Ibadan Polytechnic, where I was studying for my Higher School Certificate.

A group of eight Christian students had entered the restaurant after I had settled down to my simple meal of donuts and coke. In those days the Christians were easily identified by the size of their Bibles and sadly by their uninspiring dressing and style of communicating the Gospel. I was ready for them. So, I wasn't surprised when one of the ladies walked up to me and asked without a single word of greeting if I had accepted Jesus into my life.

“Which Jesus?” I blurted out. While she and others were trying to make sense of my question, I quickly followed with a salvo of derogatory and extremely immoral remarks about Jesus. The Christians had had enough. They fought back borrowing from my playbook, railing over me with curse words. I enjoyed the show. I raised my voice to overshadow theirs, shouting obscenities to enrage them the more. I was logical, diabolical and convincing. The group of Christians hurriedly picked their orders and sauntered out of the restaurant, wondering what son of a bitch I was.

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**I forced a smile to ease myself of the embarrassment of a stranger's power over me. He smiled back and began.**

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**Two weeks after, I converted from Islam to Christianity. I recall saying to myself in the weeks after, "Would I have responded to Christ if the smiling stranger had not shown up effectively like he did?"**

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As the battle raged, one student of their ilk was seated about ten feet to my right. He smiled through the altercations. He made a number of efforts to glance at me. Obviously, he was disgusted by his colleagues lack of discipline. But, I was his target. He kept the smiles and the glances on. At some point, I became so uncomfortable that I avoided his gaze. And as the other believers literally ran out of the restaurant, I couldn't endure the presence of the smiling stranger any longer. I rose up and walked briskly towards the exit. The guy rose up too and walked behind me. I found myself saying under my breath, "Trouble!"

I felt his left hand on my shoulder and shuddered. I didn't answer him when he asked if he could say something. I forced a smile to ease myself of the embarrassment of a stranger's power over me. He smiled back and began.

"You were too much for us. You spoke better English. You were awesome." I smiled again, wondering what he was driving at. "However, sir, you may have won the battle but not the war. And there is a war raging in your heart." I listened without a single protest. He had me. He really had me. After a few more words that stuck deep like a dagger, he went for the clincher.

"Can I say one more thing?" This time, he didn't wait for my consent. I guess he knew he had me already. "This same Jesus that you have tried to destroy in the last forty minutes or so, you will not only serve Him, someday you will preach Him." He parted me on the back like a big brother to a sulking kid, and walked out of the door and into the thin air.

Two weeks after, I converted from Islam to Christianity. I recall saying to myself in the weeks after, "Would I have responded to Christ if the smiling stranger had not shown up effectively like he did?"

In this Christmas season and in the New Year that follows, shouldn't we all commit to showing up effectively for family members, neighbors, colleagues, friends and 'enemies'? It is the greatest honour we can do to "this same Jesus" and the most consequential impact we can have on humanity. Merry Christmas to all Nigerian Haggai leaders and their families.

**"This same Jesus that you have tried to destroy in the last forty minutes or so, you will not only serve Him, someday you will preach Him."**

# Haggai National Seminar



## NATIONAL SEMINAR, REMO

A total of nineteen (19) leaders were trained at the National Seminar held by Remo Chapter on the 14th - 19th of November, 2024. The Seminar was graced by national faculty members like; Rev Joshua Kolawole Akinola, Rev Muyiwa Bamgbose and an International faculty, Arc Wilson Osikoya. A hearty congratulations to the Chapter, with the addition of these leaders, we trust the work at Remo Chapter will grow in leaps and bounds to the glory of God.



*A Cross Section Photo of the attendance Int'l Faculty- Rev Wilson Osikoya*

## NATIONAL SEMINAR, CALABAR

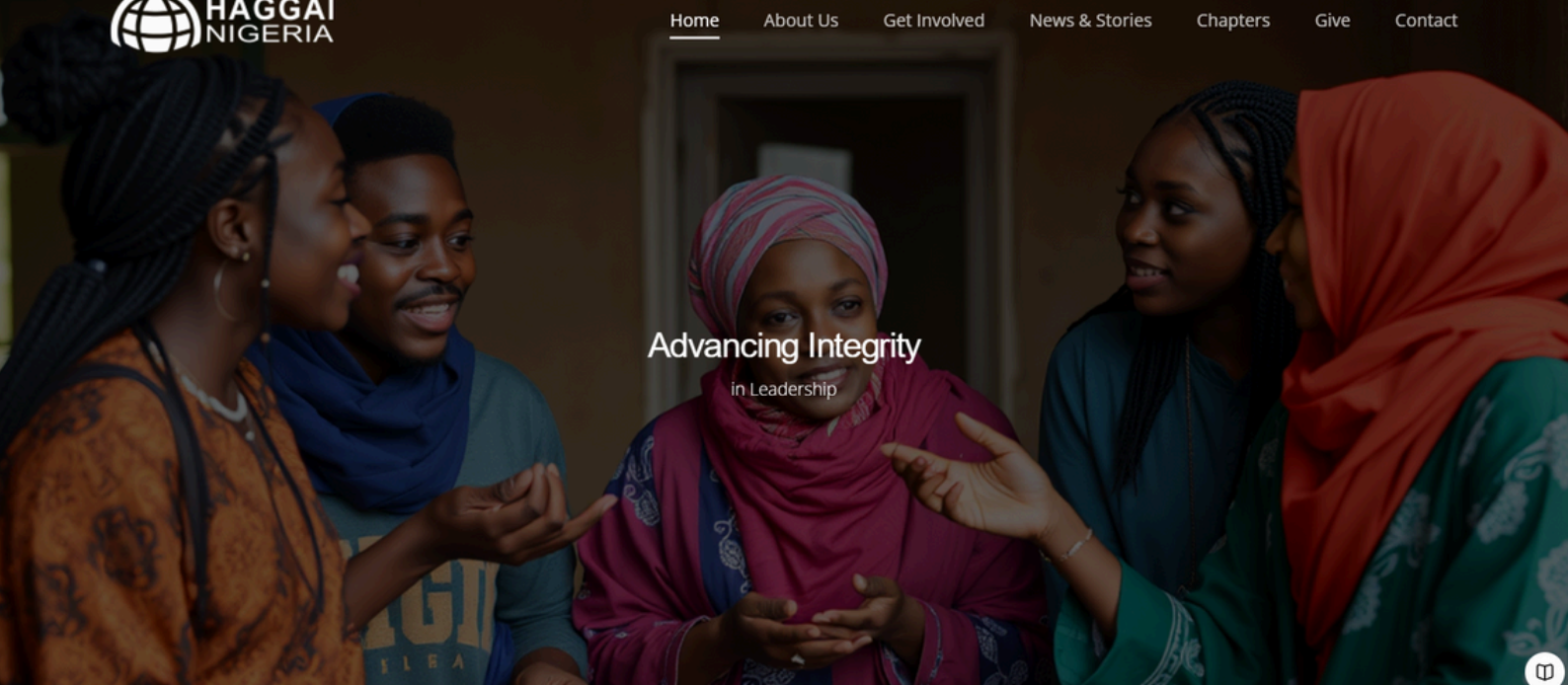
Haggai International Calabar Chapter, hosted a successful National Seminar on the 24th -29th November, 2024 in the beautiful city of Calabar. The Seminar was unique in that it was a hybrid training thereby allowing participants to savour the presence and impact of an even wider spectrum of the Haggai faculty in Nigeria.

Participants were blessed to receive from the International Associate, the National Director of training and some of our national and international faculty.



One thing is certain, their lives will never be the same again and the work in Calabar will know unstoppable growth and expansion.

There is no doubt that it can only get better and bigger next year and the Haggai International Vision will prosper in our hands as each member plays his part.



Advancing Integrity  
in Leadership

## It's Official: The New Haggai Nigeria Website Is Live!!!

One of the things the new Haggai Nigeria Board sought to do after taking up the reigns of leadership was to increase our online presence through the launch of a functional and fully optimized website and social media handles. Well, that goal has been realized to the glory of God.

The Haggai Nigeria website is now live. Not only is it dynamic and unique, it comes loaded with contents that are sure to stir up your faith, feed your focus and keep you abreast with all that is happening in our various chapters all around the country, as well at the international level too.

At a glance it is easy to tell that this website is a digital masterpiece; the details, the aesthetics and features of the website tell tales of an excellently executed project.



### Haggai Leaders

ARE COMMITTED TO THE GOSPEL +

HAVE A DISTINCT ADVANTAGE +

BELIEVE INTEGRITY IS KEY +

KNOW WHAT IT TAKES +

LONG TO EFFICIENTLY USE YOUR INFLUENCE +

WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD +

Here are some of the outstanding features on our websites;

- The news/blog feature
- The Giv feature for online giving
- Contact details of all our chapters
- All you need to know about Haggai International and Haggai Nigeria
- Quick Navigation Menu for easy navigation
- Details on trainings and all upcoming programs
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To visit the website and access all that have been mentioned and more please logon to; [www.haggai-nigeria.org.ng](http://www.haggai-nigeria.org.ng)

# 10 DAYS DATABASE Challenge



Haggai International has done a massively successful work in Nigeria in the last few decades, training over a thousand leaders internationally and they have in turn trained more than 5 times than number across the country. With 20 Chapters, most vibrant, others roaring back to life and some more to be started, it became pertinent to have an updated database of all our International and National Alumni. The call was made by the board and the “10 Days Database Challenge” was birthed.

The mission was two-pronged;

1. Update the database of all Internationally trained Alumni as sent to all chapters in a spreadsheet
2. Send in a comprehensive database of all Natioanlly trained Alumni since inception

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## 10 DAYS DATABASE Challenge

Data is important and we are updating our database in 10 days. Every Chapter is required to send in an updated database of their International Alumni and all trainees from all National Seminars organized in the chapter. We need all hands on deck for this.

**WE ARE HERE TO HELP**

**CONTACT US:**  
0803 999 9881  
0803 999 9882

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In true Haggai fashion, our chapters responded. It was an eye opener.

If anything, this exercise revealed the importance of records and reports to the work that we do. Chapters with meticulously kept records and reports quickly rose to the occasion.

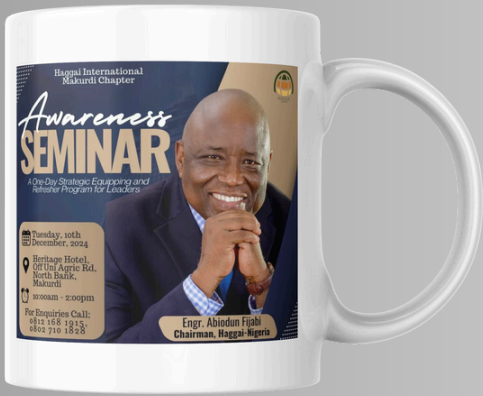
At the end of the challenge which had a 7 days extension to help some of our chapters who were behind schedule finish up, we have an updated database across the country. The next step is to refine what we have received and produce a central database which will be backed up and accessible online.

## Thanksgiving & End of Year Events



In appreciation to God for all We've accomplished this year, some chapters have organized end of year events like: picnics, get-togethers, thanksgiving and so on.

This is also an opportunity to celebrate one another while strengthening the bonds of fellowship amongst the chapters. Congratulations to all chapters who have been able to pull this off.



# UPCOMING Events



## AWARENESS SEMINAR, MAKURDI

Haggai International  
Makurdi Chapter

# Awareness SEMINAR

*A One-Day Strategic Equipping and  
Refresher Program for Leaders*

**Tuesday, 10th  
December, 2024**

**Heritage Hotel,  
Off Uni Agric Rd,  
North Bank,  
Makurdi**

**10:00am - 2:00pm**

**For Enquiries Call:  
0812 168 1915,  
0802 710 1828**

**Engr. Abiodun Fijabi  
Chairman, Haggai-Nigeria**

Haggai International, Makurdi Chapter is ending the year on a loud ovation for the Lord Jesus, as she gears up to host what will be an impactful Awareness Seminar in the beautiful city of Makurdi.

This special equipping and refresher program will be graced by the current Haggai Nigeria Chairman, Engr. Abiodun Fijabi and one of our esteemed faculty, in the person of Engr. Clement Obomighie.

Makurdi covets our prayers as they look forward to hosting a life changing program this month which will pave the way for an even more successful National Seminar in february 2024.



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