

VOL 1, ISSUE 5

EMPOWERED

NOVEMBER 2024

A NEWSLETTER OF HAGGAI NIGERIA

HAGGAI
NIGERIA

***Greed &
Gridlock***



The Clarion Call
...With Abiodun Fijabi



“Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”” Luke 12:15 (NIV)

Greed is the insatiable desire to have more. It is the inordinate affection for more of the material and transient things of life. The three major things we seek with reckless abandon are money, power and fame. As we all become irresponsible in our search for the three, we cause a gridlock - a congestion, a severe traffic of men and women that have lost their bearing. Our individual and collective lives suffer. We bid happiness a farewell. The cause of the Gospel is compromised. Our society becomes doomed.

Gridlock is when we gain much but lose so much more. “For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul.” (Mark 8:36). Gridlock is the death that results from the inordinate pursuit of our own way. “There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.” (Proverbs 14:12)

The Bible is equivocal about the love of money being the root of all evil. Greed for power makes us want to be in control of people and things for our own selfish interests. The power-play is evident at home, office and in church. It is the antithesis of servant leadership Jesus taught and modeled. Jesus said, "For I am among you as one who serves." (Luke 22:27)

Being more or having more is not a sin. In life, whatever does not grow dies. God is a God of increase..

In our excessive love for fame, we strive for the approval of others by projecting and packaging ourselves differently from who we really are. It forces us to live fake lives. Jesus knew all about fame but refused to be made a king by men who are attracted to people of power and money.

Being more or having more is not a sin. In life, whatever does not grow dies. God is a God of increase. Each of us is like a seed planted into the soil of the earth. What is the good of a seed that cannot multiply? What is the good of a branch without fruits? Possessing money, power and fame is not ungodly. The three are fruits of our labour. Seeking them as end in themselves is what corrupts the fruits and makes the branch unproductive.

“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.”- John 15:4 NKJV

Wanting more without becoming more is dangerous. By the time we possess more, it may be too late to be more

We are God’s branches. We cannot bear fruits unless we abide in Him. Meaning that money, power and fame only make us productive as long as they reflect the nature of God. The way to prevent a gridlock is to seek God ahead of money, power and fame. In that case our worldly possessions in quantum and in character are determined by God. The more we know God, the more of Him we become, and the more our fruits reflect His love and power. Wanting more without becoming more is dangerous. By the time we possess more, it may be too late to be more. This throws our lives out of sync with God, compounding our gridlock.

Gridlock is when we gain much but lose so much more...It is the death that results from the inordinate pursuance of our own way.

As we go about eradicating Gospel poverty as Haggai leaders, we must never forget we owe God our lives and that greed and the gridlock it causes should not be allowed to extinguish the Holy Ghost fire in us. He is the vine, we are the branches. “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.” (John 15:5)

It comes down to this one thing - seeking God’s Kingdom ahead of “these other things” - money, power and fame (Matthew 6:33). By this, we avoid the gridlock of greed and end up advancing the Kingdom, and possessing the right quantum and character of money, power and fame we need.

Haggai National Seminar



NATIONAL SEMINAR, ABEOKUTA

On the 14th - 18th of October, 2024 Abeokuta Chapter hosted her second National seminar for the year, thereby finishing the year strong. The Seminar gathered 34 leaders who were equipped, trained and inducted into the Haggai family and released into their sphere of contact to more effectively carry out the work of evangelism

From the choice of venue, down to the feeding; the attention to details was remarkable. The sessions were facilitated by some of our finest International and National faculty, who productively engaged the participants.



A Cross Section Photo of the attendance

The standards were met, the dyke was raised and no stone was left unturned as they made the Seminar one for the books. A big congratulations to Abeokuta Chapter, it can only get better.

NATIONAL SEMINAR, IBADAN

Haggai Chapters were challenged to begin hosting two National Seminars yearly, going forward. Ibadan Chapter took on the challenge and exceeded the target with a total of three excellently organized National Seminars in the months of January, August and October to the glory of God

The third one ran from the 29th to 31st of October, 2024 with a total of 25 Leaders trained and inducted into the Haggai family. Ibadan has churned out 201 leaders this year through these seminars, this is a laudable feat for the gospel.



We say a special “Thank You” to all members of Haggai Chapter Ibadan for your unwavering passion and commitment to the “Last Command” of the Master. Thank you for all you do for the gospel; raising leaders, building lives and spreading the gospel, you all are a beacon of light in a dark world.

Haggai National Seminar



NATIONAL SEMINAR, KWARA

Another Successful National Seminar held in the month of October was hosted by Haggai International Kwara Chapter. Fourteen (14) Leaders were trained and impacted for the work ahead. The Chapter poured their hearts into making the event memorable for the participants who had the privilege of learning and engaging with our knowledgeable faculty all through the period of the training

We trust that their lives will never be the same again and they will further the cause of the work in the Chapter greatly, as God enables them to do so



A Cross Section Photo of the attendance

Congratulations to the leadership and entire membership of the chapter for ensuring that they deliver a transformational experience this newly inducted leaders, we celebrate your efforts. God Bless You!

UPCOMING NATIONAL SEMINARS

November - December

Remo Chapter 14th - 16th November, 2024

Calabar Chapter 24th - 29th November, 2024

We wish our chapters a Successful outing in these seminars.





HOME *to a* HARVEST

While left out of the conversation most of the times, do you know your home can become a rock-solid platform for evangelism? You can make it a go-to place for those who need Jesus. It all begins with being aware and intentional about it; with the Holy Spirit and the right action the rest will fall into place.

Here are some ideas for reaching out to souls from your home front;

- Host a backyard Barbeque or potluck (Luke 14:23)
- Start a neighborhood Bible study (Acts 17:6-7)
- Invite students or refugees for dinner (Leviticus 19:34)
- Create a prayer room or war room (Matthew 6:6)

Barriers To Evangelism

As exciting as this may be, it comes with its own fare share of challenges, here are some of the common barriers to preaching the gospel using the homefront;

- Fear of rejection (2 Timothy 1:7): Nobody loves to be told “No”, the tendency is to recurl into your shell and mind your business.
- Busy schedules (Luke 10:38-42): Working at a Job or business and running a family is alot of work in itself. We tend to have our schedules overloaded
- Lack of knowledge (1 Peter 3:15); Knowledge and understanding leads to improved action. So yes, more often than not if you know better, you’ll do better.



Overcoming Barriers To Evangelism

None of the above has to stop you, with the following you can beat the odds;

- Prayer and dependence on God (Luke 18:1-8)
- Equipping and training (2 Timothy 2:2)
- Scheduling evangelism into daily life (Mark 1:35-39)

There you have it, we trust God for grace and favour as you apply the above steps. God Bless You!





STAKEHOLDERS SEMINARS, ILE-IFE



In a bid to evolve into a vibrant chapter, Haggai Ile-Ife Chapter organized one-day Awareness Seminar for her members and prospective members.

The Chairman, Haggai Nigeria facilitated sessions on Haggai Vision, How to run a successful Haggai Chapter and Communication Skills for Evangelism while Rev Gbenu handled a thought provoking session on Context; communicating the gospel to Muslims.

Participants shared their thoughts and ideas on what can be done to reposition the chapter and there was some time for prayers. We trust that what God has started will keep growing in Jesus Name! Amen!

AWARENESS SEMINAR, BENIN

The new Benin Chapter kicked off to a great start hosting an Awareness Seminar in the month of October. The Steering committee pulled all the stops to ensure a great and memorable program.

The Awe-inspiring Seminar which had over 50 people in attendance, featured blessed sessions handled by the incumbent chairman of Haggai Nigeria, Engr. Abiodun Fijabi and the immediate past Chairman, Pharm Yomi Osewa. In the words of the Chairman the Seminar was Haggai Standard the turnout was massive.

Immediately following that, new Chapter officials were inaugurated and they are as follows; Chairman-Rev'd Wilson C. Onuoha, Vice Chairman-Rev'd Mrs. Vestee D. Eborieme, Director of Training, Dr. Omomo Sunday, Secretary, Uwarobosa Aghatise, Financial Secretary / Treasurer, Rev'd Mrs. Mary Aroko, Ex-Officio members, Dr. Mattie Obazee and Rev'd George Aideyan. Please, let us all uphold them in prayers.



0803 999 9881
0803, 999, 9882
haggai.international.
nigeria@gmail.com



@haggainigeria
@haggaiinternationalnigeria