hanksgiving is the preservative for the blessings of the Lord upon your life. Ecclesiastes 3:14 says, I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be forever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him. While this is true, not thanking God for His blessings upon your life can rob you of that blessing or even turn it to a curse. When God blesses people, it is in totality however many lose the great things God has done for them due to lack of gratitude.

Malachi 2:2, if ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the Lord of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ve do not lay it to heart. This scripture is so germane that verse 1 describes it as a command. We are compelled to always give thanks to the Lord. If you take God for granted, you will be grounded. Jeremiah 13:16 says Give glory to the Lord your God, before he cause darkness, and before your feet stumble upon the dark mountains, and, while ye look for light, he turn it into the shadow of death, and make it gross darkness. The glory that is due to God is poisonous to man.

Thanksgiving remains the secret to the preservation of blessings. If you want your blessings preserved, then you must thank God wholeheartedly. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says, in everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. This scripture is letting us know that it is the will of God that we should have reasons to give thanks to the Lord. Don't just thank God

with your lips; let it flow from the depth of your heart. Heart-felt thanksgiving to God is one spiritual activity you cannot do amiss. You may be praying or believing God for a car but if in heaven you're not yet due for that blessing, you will be praying or exercising faith amiss.

However, this does not apply to thanksgiving. You can repeatedly say "thank you Jesus" despite what you are passing through and heaven will acknowledge it. No wonder Psalm 92:1 asserts that, it is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High.

Despite your unpleasant experiences, if you think deeply, you will find a thousand reasons to give thanks to the Lord. Thanksgiving is an attitude of appreciation and gratitude to God for something received from Him or for what He has done for you. It is equally an acknowledgement of God's act in your life. When God does something for you, you acknowledge His good works through thanksgiving.

After healing 10 lepers in Luke 17:12-19, Jesus asked them to go and show themselves to the priest. But when only one returned to say thank you Lord, *Jesus answering said*, *Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?* Heaven keeps record to know those who show gratitude. When you are grateful, God will know this from your heart. It is not the "thank you, Jesus" from your lips that move Him, it is when the declaration flows from the depth of your heart. Don't let a day pass without thanking the Lord. Every act of God in your life must be acknowledged and this can only be done through thanksgiving. You automatically disqualify yourself from

further blessings when you don't return thanks to the Lord.

You must consciously thank God. It is Him who delivered you from near-death experiences and kept you from sicknesses and infirmity. God has been faithful to all that concern you. You must therefore give Him thanks. Stop bombarding heaven with prayer requests when you have not thanked God enough for the much He has done. Heaven is waiting to smell the good aroma of your thanksgiving.

Wake every morning with a thankful heart to the Lord for it is indeed a good thing to thank God. Learn how to thank God always and His goodness upon your life shall endure. But for His deliverance, your actions and inactions could have landed you in deep trouble. Even when you are careful enough not to be in trouble, the indiscretions of those around you could have roped you in. The mercies of God are ever new to exempt you from unintended dangers.

You must therefore thank God and continuously do so. Aside doing this to retain the blessings of God upon our lives, our thanksgiving brings about increase. Psalm 67:5-6; Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee. 6 Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us. Dearly beloved, join me therefore in saying: Thank you, Jesus!

Joseph Shorowy

#### **Counseling/Prayer Lines**

For pastoral counseling and prayers, please call:

0706 867 2655 0803 375 0542

#### 1-YEAR BIBLE READING PLAN

DATE	BIBLE TEXTS	DATE	BIBLE TEXTS
July 18	Titus 1-2 & Jeremiah 29-30	July 22	Hebrews 2 & Jeremiah 36-37
July 19	Titus 3:1-15 & Jeremiah 31-32	July 23	Hebrews 3 & Jeremiah 38-40
July 20	Philemon 1:1-25 & Jeremiah 33	July 24	Hebrews 4:1-13 & Jeremiah 41-43
July 21	Hebrews 1 & Jeremiah 34-35		



### **Covenant of Exemption Exempts Me from Fraud**

I give all glory to the God of Highland Church for not allowing me to suffer the implication of fraud that I know nothing about. An innocent staff lost her job due to this. She was sacked on the basis of fraud after a colleague played on her intelligence. The same thing would have happened to me if not for God. Indeed, the covenant of exemption is at work in Highland Church. May the Lord's name be praised!

Oluwafemi Onatolu

### God Upgrades Me

I want to thank God for my life. My car was hit and crushed by a 40-feet container truck on March 31, 2021. Today, God has upgraded and blessed me with a new and better car. I also want to thank God for my children. God has granted them divine health despite all the challenges. I want to thank God for my job and for His all-round blessings upon my life. To Him be all the glory, Amen!

Tolulope Ajayi

Boost the belief of the brethren in God by telling of your wins, gains and victories via: testimonies@highlandchurch.com.ng

# Anniversary Blessings

- You won't fail
- You will attract favour and have open doors
- You will not struggle nor see shame
- In your house there will be no death
- God will give you assets above your age
- You will build your property with ease
- You will break records and set the pace
- You will never be stranded
- Men will honour you, you won't beg any man.
- You won't lobby or beg yet gifts will be coming your way
- You will see plenty.
- The Lord will set your destiny on a new path.

- It's time to move and do new things
- Get ready for new level of glory.
- Your glory will shine forth and not go down.
- There will be no impossibilities in your life
- You will be a partaker of the next level of glory
- God will give you your own appointed place and property
- You will move from being a tenant to landlord and the journey will start from this month
- Clients and customers will call you for business.
- You will have options of opportunities and offers
- Children of wickedness will no longer afflict you

# The Anniversary from the Lens of Sis Funmi Ogunsanya

It has been a refreshing time from the beginning of this week as Highlanders celebrated the first Anniversary of Highland Church. Activities for the event started with a *free two-day training on Basic Life Support and Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) training* for LASAMBUS and other health workers in Lagos State. This hands-on training happened on Monday and Tuesday and was well attended in Goshen.

By Thursday when the Hour of Grace and Communion Service holds, Highlanders were already in the anniversary mood. We were elated as we listened to the Senior Pastor's counsel on the best way to prepare ourselves for the anniversary. He further advised that we should be ready for the anniversary both physically and spiritually, reminding us that we are in the month of new things. We should come around in our dancing shoes, and dress up to the best during the anniversary.

By Saturday, all Highlanders were in their best beautiful, polo and T-shirts, which was so colourful. We started the evening with a praise and worship session led by the best choir in the world which was a glorious worship experience. We worshipped God like never before and easily connected with the spirit of the Lord. This was spiced by a quiz competition whereby attendees were schooled and reminded of events around the Church within the last 365 days.

At the nick of time, our guest minister, Peterson Okopi was ushered to the stage with great ecstasy among all who have gathered for the Anniversary eve event. The power of the Lord was evidently upon him as he led us straight to the throne of Grace. We worshipped God like never before and connected to the Holy Spirit without struggle. Our heavens were opened and there was a shout of rejoicing all through the vicinity. It was indeed a glorious worship experience. We were so blessed, our God was lifted in the praise and worship session. The guest musician left us with a ministration anchored on the fact that "my Jesus is not a scam".

Wow! We all testified to it that our Jesus in not a scam, He is a Promise keeper, a faithful father. We returned all the glory back to Him. If within the space of 365 days, God has done this much for us, He definitely deserves all of our praises. We are sure that in the days ahead, God is faithful to transform Highland Church and all her members in all spheres of life.

We proceed to Sunday, the grand finale, with the Spirit-filled Victoria Orenze fully on ground in Goshen. Words cannot fully describe the power and the glory in this worship session as

the worship minister led us in appreciation to God for 10 years ahead of us that has been settled. She revealed that God has gone ahead of us before the plantation of this church, and while we are celebrating one year, heavens is celebrating 10 years on our behalf, this she did for over 40 minutes of her ministration, Victoria emphasized that we should be grateful to God for the days-ahead. She proceeded to the second part that we need the renewal of Holy Ghost and in the process, she was inspired that the senior pastor should lay his hand on the church members. The senior pastor did as the Spirit of the Lord directed. When Victoria dropped the microphone, Highland Church choir took over in leading attendees to another worship experience.

In the course of the special service, there was the showing of a documentary production about the Highland Church story. The Children Church was not left out. They were on the stage to reel out the core values, pillars, the vision and the mission of Highland Church. It was arranged in a meaningful sequence followed by the detailed address of the church. How can we forget the wonderful performance of the chorography department of the church? It was a full expression of God in Art work.

Even in the midst of our anniversary, we acknowledged God's faithfulness in testimonies. New car without stress, covenant of exemption at work, etc.

The Senior Pastor, Joseph Aborowa mounted the pulpit and continued with the attitude of thanksgiving. He emphasized that the glory due to God must not be given to any man. He also mentioned that though our 10 years anniversary will be massive, 10 years is too far for what the Lord has already started doing in Highland Church. He praised the Lord for the growth so far experienced in Highland Church and prayed that as members build the kingdom of God, they will also build their own property with ease.

God is the doer of all things no man should boast in his ability. He appreciated all the CEC members for recognizing the timing of the spirit and agreeing with him to start the church during lock-down (Hebrew 3:4, 1 Corinthians 3:6). He stressed that as long as we live, we are testimony of God's doing and working. The Senior Pastor further talked about what to expect of Highland Church in the next 365days, insisting that there will be no impossibilities. And that in the days ahead, there shall be no shame or reproach for Highlanders are programmed for excellence.



### God's Intentions for Highland Church Rapid and Massive, says Peterson Okopi

Spirit-filled gospeler, Peterson Okopi, was in Highland Church on Saturday to minister at the Evening of Praise and Worship, which was part of the first Anniversary event of the Church. At the end of his glorious ministration, he said the following about the Church:

I really love this Church and the Pastor. I love the Ambiance. The Spirit of God flows to and fro in this environment. Jesus, thank you so much for the reception. I'm not even recovering from it any time soon. I know that anyone who decides to come and fellowship in Highland Church will never remain the same just as I am recovering from my experience here. Highland Church, God is here!

I got to know that the Spirit of the Lord is here immediately I stepped into the gate. Love is of God. I felt the love of God here from the entrance and even the reception. How everyone received me in the name of the Lord and then getting into the presence of God to fellowship with the brethren exposed me to another dimension of the presence of God in Highland Church. There was already a connection from stepping in and getting into the audience as well as when I got the mic to lead the people in worship that already goes on in heaven. It was so effortless leading the worship because the presence of the Lord has been here. There was a surge of the Spirit and it was so easy for everyone to connect. This shows that the people are of one spirit.

Highland Church is miraculous. I know a lot of Churches that start and crawl. God is so intentional about Highland Church. I can see the intentionality of God in Highland Church is a massive, rapid one. The growth is so rapid. I know what it is to be one year in something. It doesn't look as perfect as what I can see here. To be honest, what I can see is God moving with Highland Church.

The leadership and members should keep on keeping on. They should keep at what they are doing for there is power and result in consistency.

# Victoria Orenze Prophesies about Highland Church

Multi-talented music minister, Victoria Orenze serenaded members of Highland Church in the Spirit as she led in worship during the first anniversary thanksgiving event of the Church last Sunday. Awed by what God has in store for Highland Church and Pastor Joseph Aborowa, Victoria revealed the following to the congregation about their Church:

"Your God has gone 10 years ahead for Highland Church. Your next 10 years is going to be massive. You have achieved in one year what would have taken others more than 10 years to accomplish.

I see 10 glorious years ahead for this Church. What did you do to be so loved by the Lord? They will say how possible is it for you to have achieved this much? God is with you and has gone ahead of you both individually and collectively. You're a Church built on prayer and for the storm. I'm so glad I came to this house.

God is paying you as if you have worked for 10 years. You are a wonder. What did you do to be this favour by the Lord? Your Thanksgiving to the Lord should therefore explode. What you will see in the next 10 years will blow your mind, unless I've not heard from the Lord. I'm happy for you. I pray that you don't live below the standard that God has lifted you. I pray you live above it.

God said you should give thanks because He has created room for Thanksgiving in this House. This Church is found on Jesus. The Pastor wants you to drink from the same source he drinks. God has raised Pastor Joseph to raise you. He wants you to depend on the Holy Spirit.

Members of this Church won't chase signs and wonders. Signs and wonders will follow you. Choir, your roles is to go ahead as Levites. The Holy Ghost is here strongly. What did you guys do? The road has been charted for you but you need to run with speed."



## For Your Information •

#### **Greater Works Conference**

Highland Church shall be hosting an International Conference come July 31 which shall bring together all our brethren in the Diaspora for a pleasant fellowship. The Global Grace pillar of the Church shall take center stage in this virtual meeting tagged Greater Works. From our headquarters in Oregun, Highlanders from different countries of the world shall connect with the Senior Pastor, Joseph Aborowa ministering. More information will be available as the date draws near.

# **Sunday Service Returns to 8:30am and 10am**

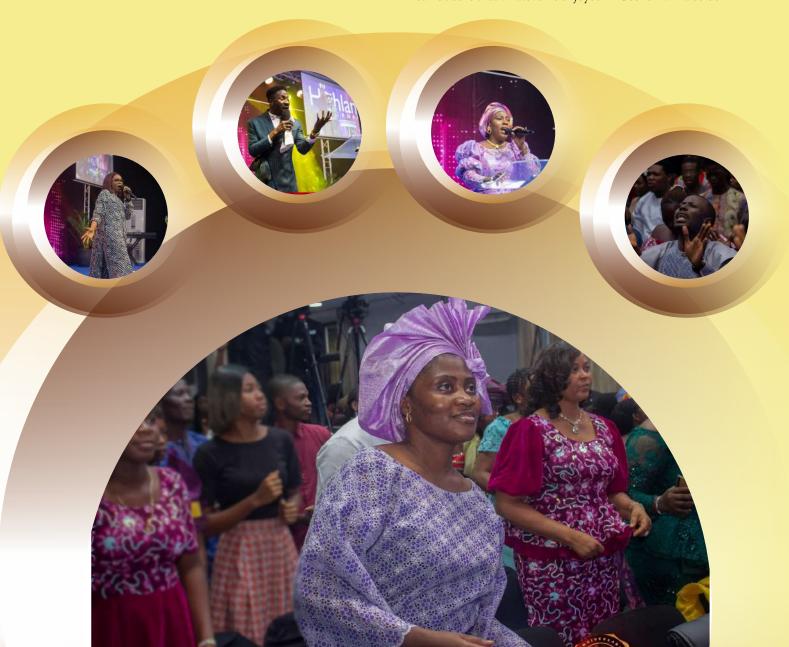
The Time of Refreshing, the Sunday Service of Highland Church, returns to 8:30am and 10am this Sunday for first and second service respectively. It promises to be a swell time in the presence of the Lord. Make it a date at Plot 2/3 Kudirat Abiola Way, Oregun, Ikeja.

### **Highland Cell Meeting Holds This Saturday**

The Highland Cell Meeting, which is our small group fellowship, holds this Saturday for you to be sharpened by other believers and have your glory unveiled. Prepare to fellowship with an innumerable company of angels in the cell centre nearest to you. Your breakthrough won't happen in isolation but will be facilitated when you don't neglect the gathering of the brethren. There is always something new to learn every time our cells meet. You also stand to be clarified of any preaching from the pulpit which you don't understand. It's a one-hour-fifteen minute fellowship that holds every Saturday between 4pm to 6:15pm depending on the most convenient time for the members.

### **HLC Re-opens Yaba Church**

Highland Church members living in Yaba and environs may no longer need to travel all the way to Oregun to relish the Highland experience as the Church's former location at No 22 Oweh Street, Jibowu Yaba, Lagos is set to be re-opened for services and activities as from Sunday, August 15, 2021. You can be sure that whatever is enjoyed in Goshen will also be



## For Your Information

available in Bethel. This presents an opportunity for you to evangelize and get those around you to enjoy the grace and transformation at work in our Commission. As the evangelism drive of the Church turns towards Yaba preparatory to this reopening, endeavor to be among the evangelists.

# Believers' Foundation Class for July Ongoing

The Believers Foundation Class (BFC) is a class prepared to lay the basic foundation of our Christian journey for every new member of Highland Church. It is also the platform from which you get into the training that will make you a worker in this Commission. This month's edition of the BFC holds in the Teenagers Church this Sunday by 7am. In case you missed any of the classes in the previous editions, take advantage of this July edition to participate in that class you missed. To join the Believers' Foundation Class, contact Pastor Andrew or Bro. Fashola.

# God Needs Your Home in Oregun, Ikeja Environs as HCM Centres

Do you live in Oregun, Olusosun, Ojota, Opebi and environs and want the ark of God to tabernacle in your house? Do you like how services go in Highland Church and you want this glory and awesomeness to be replicated in your home? Do you have space to host between 5-15 adults? If your answers to these questions are in the positive, then be a host of the Highland Cell Meeting. This is so that the brethren living around you can have a place to worship and learn under the feet of our master, Jesus, on Saturday evenings for just one hour 15 minutes. You can signify interest in making your home available for the Highland Cell Meeting by contacting Pastor Andrew or the Church admin. The kind of blessings enjoyed by Obed Edom within the three months the Ark of Covenant stayed in his house awaits you when you heed this call.



# For Your Information







### Be in Church, even without Transport Fare

The relocation of the Highland Church headquarters should make no one neglect the fellowship of the brethren or disconnect from the warmth at Highland services. When the Cloud of Glory was moving, 100 per cent migration was declared to ensure that no one is left behind. Free bus shuffle has since been conveying brethren from bethel to Goshen City every Sunday so that our beloved brethren who are used to the benefits of living near our former location can still make it to Church at no cost and in comfortable buses. Between 6:45am to 8am every Sunday, the buses leave 22 Oweh Street in Fadeyi to Plot 2/3 KudiratAbiola Way, Oregun. After the service, the buses will be on ground to convey worshippers back to Fadeyi which will be stopping at Palmgrove and Onipanu for those living in those areas to alight. The Transportation Unit of the Church is very pleased to be of service; let them convey you to the presence of the Lord.





### **For Your Information**



Plot 2/3 Kudirat Abiola Way, First Bank B/Stop, Oregun





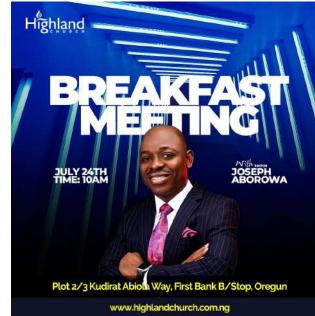








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# HIGHLAND CHURCH HEADQUARTERS

Plot 2/3 Kudirat Abiola Way, Oregun, Ikeja, Lagos State. www.highlandchurch.com.ng For enquiries, please call: 08187722660, 08038389908

Highland Church is a Church not bound by time and space; as such our corporate worship can be enjoyed by those outside our immediate location in Lagos State and Nigeria. You can connect with us from any part of the world by sending a mail to: hci@highlandchurch.com.ng and your email will be promptly and accordingly responded to. You can also visit our website: highlandchurch.com.ng for the live streaming of our services or connect to our social media handles @hlchurchng across all social media platforms.



