



Called  
to be  
**CHOSEN**  
and  
**GLORIFIED**

*God's Vessels*

Maureen Mimidoo Tarka Fateh



Called to be Chosen and Glorified God's Vessels

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Memorial Website:

**[www.maurentarkafateh.com](http://www.maurentarkafateh.com)**

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# PUBLISHER'S PREFACE

It gives me great pleasure to introduce Sister Maureen Tarka Fateh's book to you. Though she has passed on to glory, she once lived on earth, where her memory and testimony lives on.

The week I heard the news of Mimidoo's departure, I was very sad, but the Lord gave me a dream. I saw her standing in a court with a piece of paper in her hand. It puzzled me as to the meaning of this dream, nevertheless, I wrote it down. Two years on, Mr. Fateh approached me to publish Sister Maureen's Book, she had written part of it, but not yet completed or published it. I was then reminded of the dream I had of Maureen standing in a court room with a document in her



hand, perhaps talking to God about her unpublished book?

The death of Jesus Christ did not stop His ministry, in fact, Christ's work on earth exploded after His death... His name became magnified. Christ's name and message is still heard all over the earth. God is faithful and glorious, in that His Word and Work still speaks, the same way the work of His Sons and Daughters, still speaks today. The work of God cannot be frustrated, whether dead or alive, the voice of Sister Maureen speaks through this book.

I pray this book, "Called to be Chosen," will be magnified in your heart and mind. I pray that everything she meant to say, and did not have the time to say, will be relayed to you by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*Miss Ruth Ella Dickson*  
*Gihon Publishing*





# FORWARD

This is a must read book for all ladies, husbands, pastors and all those who really want to know God's heart. Those who want to understand and unveil part of the basics instincts/ desire of every woman and God's heart and divinity/provisions for woman's existence and mission.

A "from the heart book" that draws inspiration from Mimidoo's own struggles as one who waited on God for a long time before getting married. It removes all the masks and pretenses that come with writings like this. With child-like simple definitions Mimidoo guides the people into the hands of the world of the Holy Spirit and helps you discover His power to rede-



fine your life as a chosen vessel, in order to find fulfillment and purpose in life. It is her heart speaking from many baptisms. You can only understand by reading.

Late Mimidoo Fateh, formerly known as Maureen Tarka, was my daughter and close confidant, a saint in all ramifications of the word. Mimidoo was an ordinary woman, born of parentage of pedigree, who found herself thrown into the strange contradictions and vicissitudes of life. She had to fend for herself quite early and war the battle of life alone, without her famous parents.

Her Law background, and later experience with the Holy Spirit, helped her to wade through battles to become the pillar of strength to many a great men and women: governors, ministers of the gospel and many day to day ordinary men and women. She always lived for other people, always working in the background, using the resilience she found in God and her personal contact with Him to solve or slow down a lot of crisis, both in the politics of her state and among those who knew her.

Her husband when she found him was her second idol after God. She qualifies to show us the way, from the baby like heart approach the Holy Spirit carried her through, to make mountains become plains.

I commit you to the same Holy Spirit she found to visit with you in this book that uses definitions of life to





bring us truths that don't look as clear and straight-forward. May that practical God, who has brought us this far, bring greater meaning to your world and help you finish well, as Mimidoo did, in her life time.

*Apostle (Dr) Emmanuel Nuhu Kure, Vision Pioneer,  
Throneroom Trust Ministry, Kafanchan - Kaduna  
State.*

*National Secretary,  
Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria.*









# MY KASEV IKUNDU

*By Fateh Apeh Fateh*

God's ways are far beyond human comprehension. The Holy writ states in Isaiah 5:8-9 '...My thoughts are not your thoughts and My ways not your ways... My ways are higher than your ways and My thoughts higher than your thoughts' so, we always submit to His sovereign will, since He's all knowing.

My mum grew up with Mimi's grandmother and she (Mimi's grandmother), gave out my mum in marriage. As I grew up, sometimes I would go visiting her grandmother during holidays. We were not related by blood, as we later found out, but there was always that affinity.



She was much talked about amongst the guys, mostly because of the myth surrounding her. She was a reserved and very unusual lady in her generation. She was kind hearted, honest, hardworking and beautiful both inside and out with a golden heart. It was so easy to love her unconditionally, for there were no airs about her, she was down to earth with an unmatched humility.

Our wedding was a spectacle, her late father being a political icon and she, on her part, being a much sought after bride, there was the high and the mighty in the society in attendance.

The honeymoon started at the Obudu Cattle Ranch, then moved to the Hilton in Abuja, then London, then Montego Bay in Jamaica and finally, we continued at our home, in Abuja where everyday was honeymoon.

Our marriage was sheer bliss. There was no quarrel in the entire duration of our time together. The filial subservience is not a common occurrence.

### **We forgave each other before we married:**

I remember just before the marriage, we forgave each other all the offences that were likely to occur during the marriage, therefore, there was absolutely no rancour during the marriage. She once asked me what she was supposed to do as my wife and I told her to go and read Proverbs 31 and she was that and much more, both in word and in deed.



Mimi was a master arranger and could fix just about anything.

I grew up in the knowledge and admonition of the Lord and was a church boy from the beginning. My mum was a God fearing woman who had a close relationship with her maker, who lived a prayerful life and she was one person I could say assuredly that she was a Christian. Then I happened on Mimi. She was an example of the believer in word, in deed and in all ramifications. She was a tongues - speaking, demon chasing, born again child of the Almighty God. She loved the Lord sincerely and was completely devoted to the things of God. She was involved in Mission work and her home was a transit camp for different missionaries. She didn't have resources of her own, everything was used for the Lord and for advancement of the Kingdom. She was a sounding board and road- pointer to many and was totally committed to God. Maybe, that's why it was difficult for me to understand why she left when she did.

If the Tarka family were an Orchestra, she was easily the dancing star of the Orchestra. Everything ran by her. She held everything together, she was the mother hen, maybe because she was the only girl. She had a sweet spirit, was the most selfless person I ever knew and carried everyone on her shoulders.

We traveled the world together, always hand in hand, my OD, my prayer partner, my best friend, who at times was mother/sister, legal/special advisor,



the most precious jewel with an inestimable value, my million cow woman, my 'Kasev Ikundu,' (twenty women rolled in one).

Her journey to glory started like a very bad joke. We traveled to Jos for a wedding and I noticed that she was not her cheerful self but a bit withdrawn. I kept pressing her, to tell me what was bothering her, and after much persuasion, she finally told me that there was a discomfort around her armpit region, she quite didn't understand. I promised her that we would check it out the moment we got back to Abuja, which we did, the moment we got back.

The diagnosis was Invasive Ductal Carcinoma. The Doctor wanted to use the best terms to break it down to us, but Mimi spared the Doctor the difficulty of telling us what it was, Cancer... We proceeded to Israel for treatment and we discovered that it was triple negative, aggressive form of Cancer that is difficult to contain. We decided to seek ozone treatment in Nuremberg Germany. We learnt there that the biopsy done in Israel had aggravated her condition and there was a metastasis to her vital organs. We were believing God all through and she was determined to survive and didn't want people knowing her true condition until she shared her testimony. We fought and fought the invasive intruder. We prayed and prayed. We did all we knew how to do.

I thought we fought forever, but with the benefit of hindsight, I realised that the fight was actually brief.

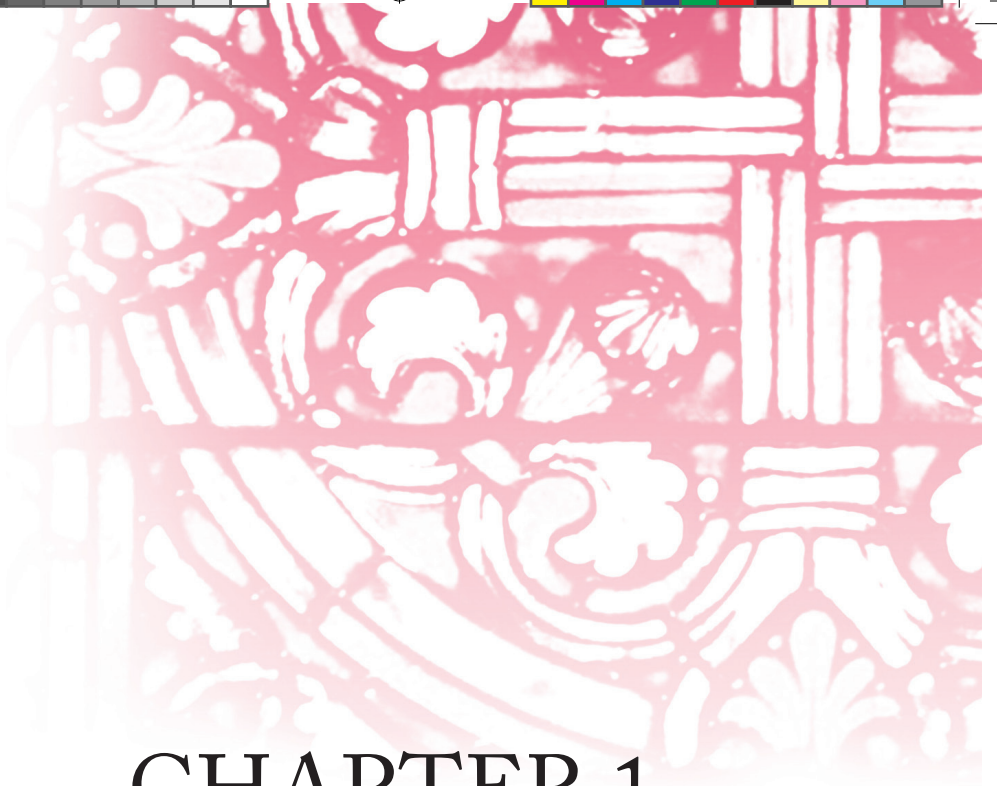


From diagnosis in March of 2017, to when she transitioned to Eternal Glory, on 25 December of the same year, was not such a long drawn battle. People fight cancer for years and survive. This one didn't give us much of a fighting chance.

Mimi's transition created such a deep void, so difficult to fill, and left me with more questions than answers. As I prayed and tried to find out why God allowed it to happen, the only thing I got was Romans 11:33:

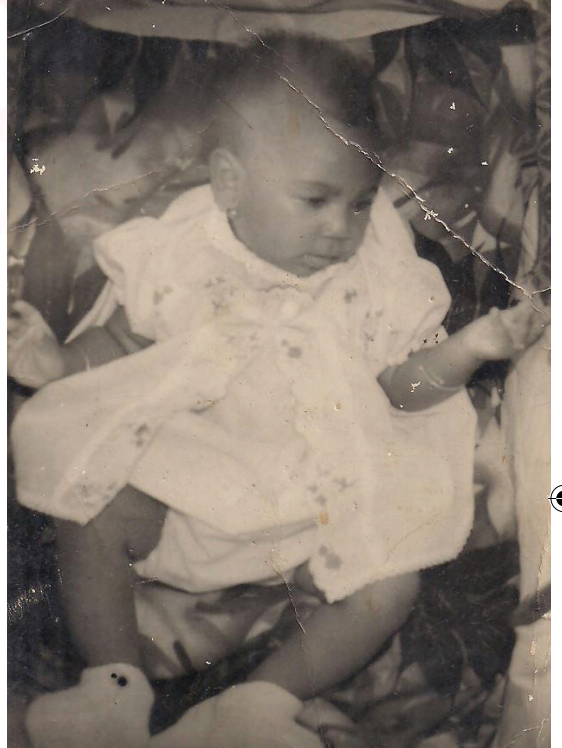
*"O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out!"*

*Fateh Apeh Fateh*



# CHAPTER 1

*Glorification of God's Chosen Vessels*



## *R*omans 8:30 NKJV

*“Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called, whom He called, these He also Justified; and whom He justified, and these He also glorified.”*

These are three words that resound strongly in the spirit at this moment. They are: Glorification, Chosen and Vessels.

To understand these powerful words, let us look at the definitions in the Oxford dictionary.





## *Glorification*

This comes from the root word “GLORY” which is described as:

- ***Praise and worship of God.***
- ***Fame, praise or honor, that is given to somebody, because they have achieved something important.***
- ***Great beauty.***
- ***A special cause for pride, respect or pleasure.***

So in order to glorify, there is a coming together of all these descriptions. In summary, glorification is the process that makes something or somebody praise and worship God or gives honor, fame for achieving something important. It can be described as great beauty, that is a special cause of pride, respect or pleasure.

It means that when God made us in His image and likeness in Genesis 1:27, He made us people of praise, fame, honour and people of great beauty to bring pride, respect, honor and pleasure to his name.

Revelations 4:11

*You are Worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power;  
For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were  
created.*





God has made us seem to look better, more important than we currently are, and deserving of great fame and success.

## *Chosen*

This word flows from '**CHOOSE**' which means: to decide which thing or person you want, out of the ones that are available or to prefer or decide to do something.

### *Ephesians 1:3-5*

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,*

Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,

Having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will.

It is always so exciting to be chosen to do an assignment, or join a team, selected for a responsibility. God through the sacrifice of His son Jesus Christ has chosen you out of the available for the praise and glory of His name.





## *Vessel*

A vessel is described as:

- ***A large ship or boat.***
- ***A container used for holding liquids, such as a bowl, cup.***
- ***A tube that carries blood through the body of a person or animal, or carries liquid through the parts of plant.***

John 15:1, 5 says,

*1 I am the Vine, and my Father is the Vinedresser.*

*5 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.*

When we merge the relevant descriptions, we realize that we are actually the containers or vessels that were chosen by God, wanted, sought after, carefully selected by him out of the available, as a result of which we become a cause for pleasure, honor, respect, fame and great beauty.

This truth should make you shout a loud HALLELUJAH!!!



Be encouraged! Although your expectation is that you should have married at the age of 18, 25 or 30 years; your marriage at 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 or 90, does not matter; what matters is that your testimony will bring praise, beauty, honor and glory to God.

It shall surely come to pass in Jesus name AMEN.

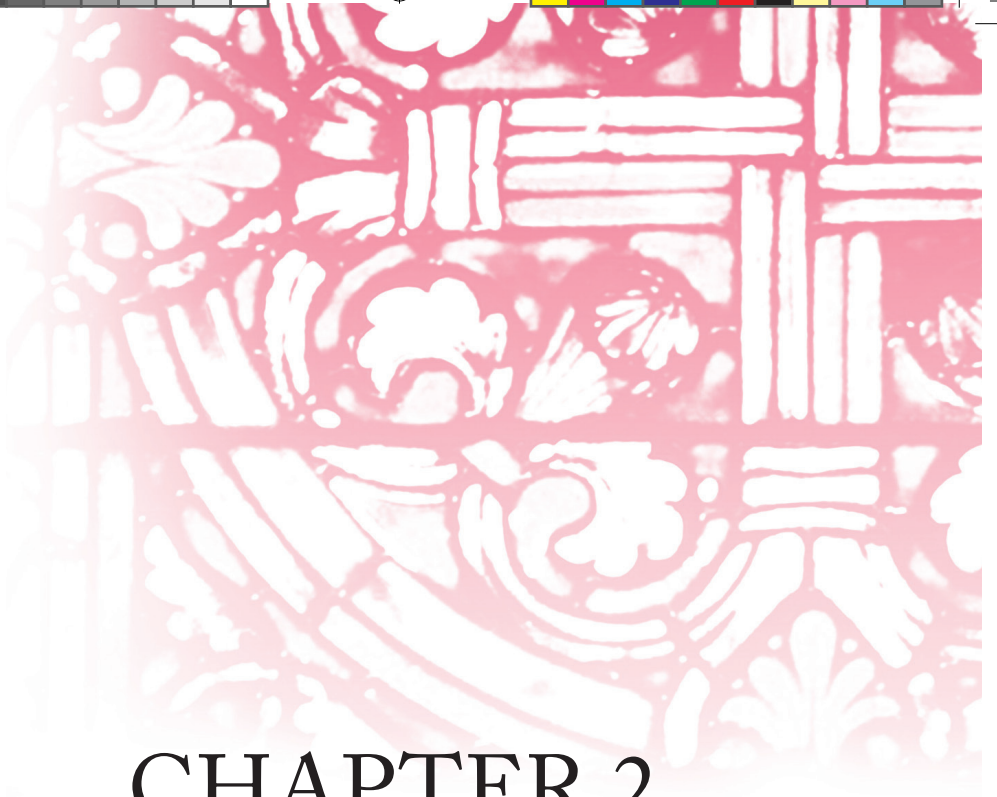
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# PRAYER

*Lord, thank you for your grace and mercy to be alive this day.*

*Thank you for choosing me to be a vessel in your hands, to be a source of pleasure to you.*

*Make my life beautiful for the praise and glory of your Holy Name.  
I am available to you in Jesus name,  
Amen.*



# CHAPTER 2

*Help-Meet*



**F**rom an early age, girls are groomed to understand that marriage is their ultimate destination, to some princess, baby dolls, toy pots and pans are given to them while others improvise with empty tins and sticks, as they play pretending roles such as cooking, bathing, and backing their dolls, just as they see mothers and aunts do in real life.

So we begin to think and gradually set mental targets such as, 'I will marry at 20 and finish having all my children by the time I am 28 years old.'



When a girl gets to the age of 18, she has attended enough weddings to have a clear vision of what her wedding day will be like, her dress, colour scheme, songs, reception etc.

She begins to dream of the qualities she would like in a husband and a newly introduced young man may trigger a dress rehearsal in her mind if care is not taken. 'Is he the one?' she asks herself.

The matter begins to become a challenge as years begin to roll by, relationships start and end without any marital commitment. Gradually, anticipation, expectation and excitement begin to wane and become replaced by anxiety, stress, depression, hopelessness or even various sicknesses.

Proverb 13:12 says,

*'Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but when the desire comes, it is a tree of life.'*

*There may be circumstances that cause delay or lateness in marriage:*

**SPIRITUAL:** These could range from witchcraft attacks; envy or jealousy from people, ancestral or generational curses etc.

**CHARACTER DEFICIENCIES:** These include uncultured behavior, general lack of manners, anger and contention, promiscuity, lack of care and attention etc.



**PSYCHOLOGICAL:** These can include fear of failing at marriage, fear of commitment, or trauma as a result of verbal or physical abuse and failed relationships etc.

**PHYSIOLOGICAL:** These can include physical challenges in the body that make a person conclude that they are not 'marriage material' or fear that genealogical or birth defects may be passed unto their offspring.

It is important that we go back to the basics of the Truth of God's Word to establish His position about marriage.

Genesis 1:26-28 says,

*Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.'*

So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female, He created them.

Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air and every living thing that moves on the earth.'

God's first recorded conversation with man Adam



(who already had the woman incubating inside him) was to bless him and then give him an instruction, inheritance and commission.

Genesis 1:31 says,

*'Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good...'*

God made you good. He made marriage good. Since He made you good and made marriage good, then He will make your marriage good, in Jesus name.

Genesis 2:18-22 says,

*'And the Lord God said, 'it is not good that man should be alone, I will make him a helper comparable to him.'*

Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature that was its name.

So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field.

But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.

And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and





closed up the flesh in its place from the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman and brought her to the man.'

In every man, there is a created helper, a mate suitable for that man, to balance his limitations, and encourage his strengths. There is a season when that helper will be revealed to the man.

For Adam, it was after God had shown him his territory, his assignment in the garden and provision for taking care of his family that Eve was revealed to him. Genesis 2:8-25.

Isaiah 34:16 says,

*'Search from the book of the Lord and read, not one of these shall fail; not one shall lack her mate, for my mouth has commanded it, and His spirit has gathered them.'*

Ecclesiastes 3:1 says,

*'To everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven.'*

Marriage is God's idea. If properly executed in obedience to His precepts and counsel, it gives us a taste of what Heaven is like.

We are called the 'Bride of Christ'; we look forward to the marriage supper.



In the same way we look out and yearn to be married, God expects us to yearn for Him as our bridegroom and husband. When we long for God and His presence above any other thing in life, it delights Him.

Imagine a bridegroom excitedly preparing for his wedding only to discover that his bride to be is only interested in him because he is a meal ticket, free accommodation and gate pass to the prestigious club of 'Mrs.!' That wedding will of course be cancelled.

Beloved, seek the Living God because it is only in Him that you can satisfy the longing to belong. It is the home coming that every soul searches for unconsciously.

Putting such a demand on a man leads ultimately to disappointment.

Jeremiah 17:5, 7 says,

*'Cursed is the man who trusts in man, and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the Lord.'*

*'Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose hope is the Lord.'*

As women, we are all 'help-meets', destined to help mankind.

We need to hand over our lives and our desire to marry unto the Lord and allow Him, trust Him, obey Him when He directs in the decision of marriage.



Some ladies after waiting for God's timing give up and go for plan 'B', which is do it yourself with disastrous consequences emotionally.

Some decide to explain it away by concluding that they were not meant to marry, but to serve God in the vineyard.

This may sound spiritual, but in most cases, is a cover up to explain why they have been faithfully serving God, but are still not married.

If God has set you aside for celibacy, He will tell you in clear terms, and will provide the grace for you to maintain your vessel in a holy and clean state.

Do not conclude that it is over. As long as you are breathing; your time will still come.

Ecclesiastes 9:4 says,

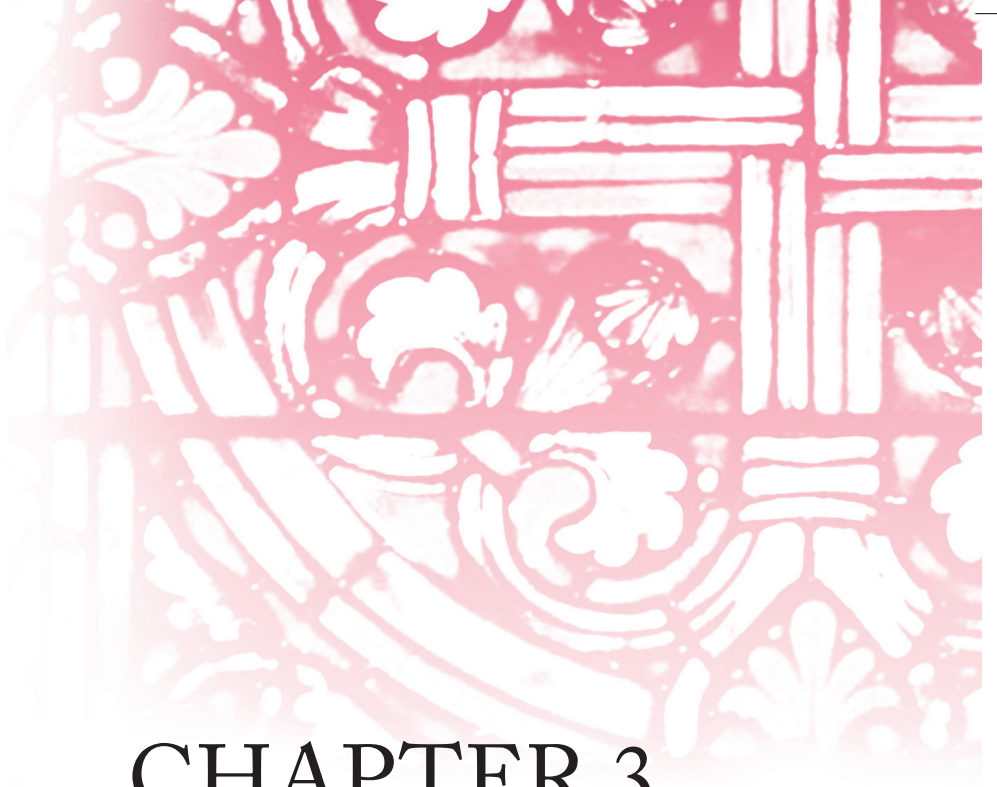
*'But for him who is joined to all the living there is hope, for a living dog is better than a dead lion.'*

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## PRAYER

*Lord, I thank you that your Word is true. I believe you as you wash me with your Word to present me to my earthly bridegroom to the glory of your name.*





# CHAPTER 3

*What Kind of Vessel are You?*



**T**here are certain experiences we go through in life that help us to identify our qualities, that make for qualification, as a vessel of honor, chosen by God.

2Timothy 2:20 says,

*'But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor.'*

Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work!





Gold, silver, wood and clay are materials that are different in strength, texture, value and durability.

Earthen (clay) vessels are fragile, but easily replaceable, while gold and silver are stronger, valuable and highly durable.

When you have been chosen as a vessel for honorable use, some of the processes you go through for purification will be very painful; to make water from a stream safe to drink it needs to be boiled, cooled and filtered.

Water that is not treated properly can harbor harmful bacteria, which leads to disease and sickness.

So, in order that we do not bring contamination, discomfort or 'dis-ease' to the Kingdom agenda, we go through some of this discomfort.

A classic example in scripture is Esther, who went through several crises, but is a reference through time and eternity, as a vessel chosen for glorification.

In subsequent chapters, we will try to identify the qualities that we should endeavor to work on while we are in the process of waiting for God to reveal us to our mates.

In Esther, Chapter One, king Ahasuerus held a feast for one hundred and eighty days where he displayed the riches of his glorious kingdom and at the end of



that feast; he held another feast for seven days during which he displayed more treasures in his palace.

Imagine sitting on gold and silver couches, with your feet placed on mosaic pavements of alabaster, turquoise, white and black marble pillars and silver rods. In verse six, we see the Solid opulence of king Ahe-suerus' kingdom! In verse seven, drinks were served in golden vessels, and each vessel was different from the other. Maybe some had pearls imbedded in them, others rubies, others diamonds, but each was unique, remarkable with its own designer touch.

That is how each of us is made by the Master Craftsman; unique in mold, purpose, and design, therefore our destinies cannot be alike.

These vessels were only brought out for this special feast for the nobles. Royal wine was served in abundance, according to the king's generosity.

We are all different, but carry sweet wine, the anointing, according to the generosity of the King of kings.

It is only when we have gone through the refining fire that we can be qualified as fit to carry this wine for our husbands who are princes and priests, noble sons of the Most High God.

These golden vessels were brought out only during the special feasts, meaning that they were valuable, kept securely and brought out for the best of sea-





sons. In the same manner, you are being kept and will be brought out to carry God's anointing into your marriage in the name of Jesus!

At that feast, king Ahasuerus decided to show off his most prized possession. She was his golden vessel of joy, his pride, his precious jewel, Queen Vashti, but she refused to come. This led to her downfall.





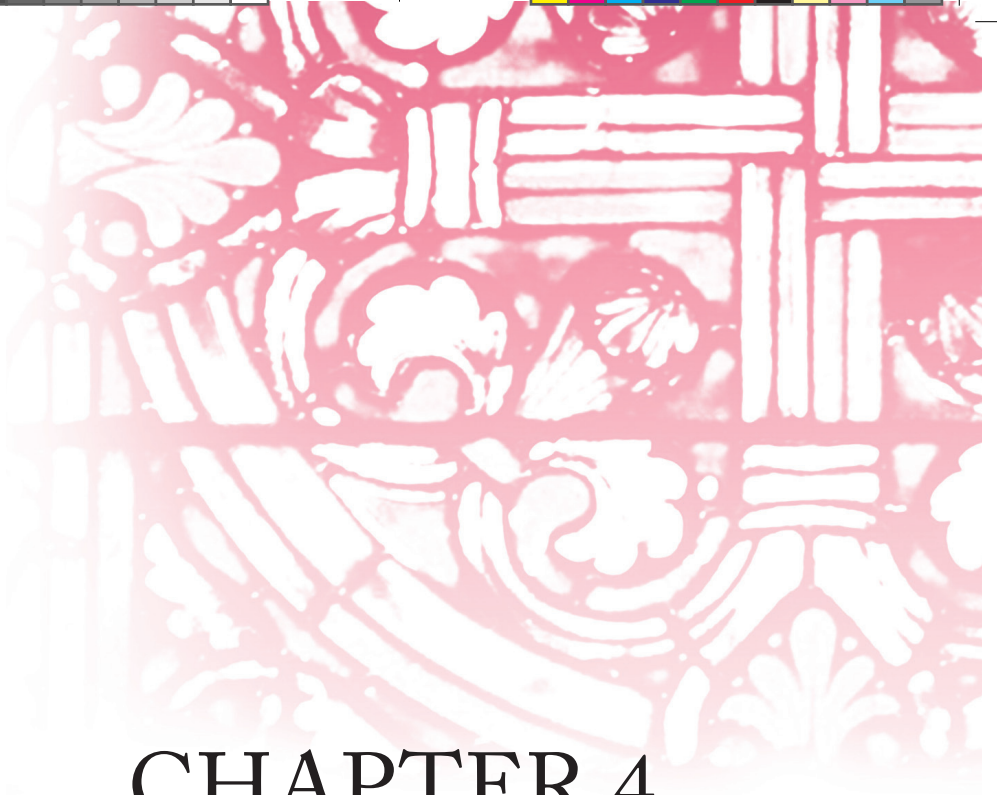


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# PRAYER

*May the Lord help me be sensitive to know the time of my visitation:  
the hour when you choose to show me off to my generation in Jesus  
name.*





# CHAPTER 4

*Honour*



**I**n the dictionary 'Honour' refers to showing great respect or admiration, privilege or the quality of knowing and doing what is morally right... It is to give public praise or award.



In Esther 1:12, Queen Vashti's behavior by refusing to come out in her royal Robes as the king commanded, amounted to dishonor, which means, she showed total disrespect and disregard for the king.

This action was regarded as a wrong not only to the king, but the princes and all the provinces of king Ahasuerus (verse 18).





This is a very sober situation for all daughters of the kingdom.

You need to be conscious of the fact that many people look up to you, your siblings, nieces, younger ladies to whom you may appear to be a role model because of your spiritual stance, your dedication, your career achievement, academic excellence, even your appearance.

In anything you do, these ones are watching keenly in order to do what you do and use you as a reference point: 'ah- but Aunty wears her own like that.'

Your decision to compromise can affect a generation for eternity.

Queen Vashti should have simply obeyed and later in private could have explained her reservation and concern to the king about being paraded before everybody.

But for reasons best known to her, she did not, and as a result God used the situation to work out salvation for His people through Esther.

The main issue here is to ask yourself how willing am I to honour a man who wants to marry me?

We are first of all to honour God, and then our husbands, regardless of their social standing.





Esther 1:18-20 says,

*'This very day, the noble ladies of Persia and Media will say to all the king's officials and they have heard of the behavior of the Queen. Thus, there will be excessive contempt and wrath.'*

If it pleases the king, let a royal decree go out from him and let it be recorded in the laws of the Persians and the Medes, so that it will not be altered, that Vashti shall come no more before the king Ahasuerus; and let the king give her royal position to another who is better than she.

When the king's decree which he will make is proclaimed throughout all his empire (for it is great), all wives will honour their husbands, both great and small.

... that every man should be master in his own house and speak in the language of his own people.'

Please be sure that you are ready, willing and capable of honouring a man before you agree to marry him.

A woman who chooses to dishonor her husband works contrary to the Proverbs 31 woman. Proverbs 31 verses 1, 23, 28, 29 shows a woman who respects and honours her husband which makes him trust her, and she brings prosperity, fame, pleasure and praise to him, as a result of her fear of the Lord and obedience to His commands.



Ephesians 5:22-24 Amplified says,

*'Wives be subject (be submissive and adapt yourselves) to your own husbands as (a service) to the Lord.'*

For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ is the head of the church; Himself the Saviour of (His) body.

As the church is subject to Christ, so let wives also be subject in everything to their husbands.'

The honour of your husband is fundamental to the value and honour your marriage will bring to your family and to the kingdom.

If you realize that you cannot submit or adapt yourself to the man, do not bother going on with the relationship because rebellion is a recipe for disaster. Note that the woman is the one to adapt, not to force the man to adapt to her image.

As a single woman, I was concerned about submitting to just any man, until I realized that it meant I should submit to my 'own husband'. While I was waiting, I was to submit to the male spiritual authority in my life, until he handed me over to my own husband, after my marital vows.

For those whose biological fathers are alive, please ensure you honour and submit to them.



Having crossed that hurdle, as a young believer, a friend showed me 1 Peter 3:1-6, in the Amplified version:

*In like manner, you married women, be submissive to your own husbands (subordinate yourselves as being secondary to and dependent on them, and adapt yourselves to them), so that even if any do not obey the Word (of God) they may be won over, not by discussion, but by the (godly) lives of their wives.*

*When they observe the pure and modest way in which you conduct yourselves, together with your reverence (for your husband; you are to feel for him all that reverence includes: to respect, esteem, appreciate, prize, and in the human sense, to adore him, that is, to admire, praise, be devoted to, deeply love, and enjoy your husband).*

*Let not yours be the (merely) external adorning with (elaborate) interweaving and knotting of the hair, wearing of jewelry, or change of clothes.*

*But let it be the inward adorning and beauty of the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible and unfading charm of a gentle and peaceful spirit, which (is not anxious or wrought up) but is very precious in the sight of God.*

For it was thus that the pious women of old who hoped in God were (accustomed) to beautify themselves and were submissive to their husbands (adapting themselves to them as themselves secondary and dependent upon them).





It was thus that Sarah obeyed Abraham (following his guidance and acknowledging his headship over her by) calling him lord (master, leader, authority). And you are now her true daughters if you do right and let nothing terrify you (not giving way to hysterical fears or letting anxieties unnerve you).'

In fact, I was annoyed with my friend for showing it to me in the amplified because I thought there was no way I could submit and adapt to that extent without becoming a 'mu-mu' (fool).

Thank God for His Grace and mercy as I continued to grow in submission to spiritual authority over my life and knowledge of the word of God, I learnt I could not do it by myself, but by the **Holy Spirit**, I found it easy.

It was not difficult to find out I could easily and graciously submit to my husband when he came into my life.

It takes humility to submit, reverence, respect, regard as described and explained in the Amplified, but when you read what it says the husband should do in verse seven and Ephesians 5:25-33, the husbands do more: to love his wife to the extent of laying down his life and substance for her.

I believe it is easier to submit and honour, but God's grace is sufficient for us.





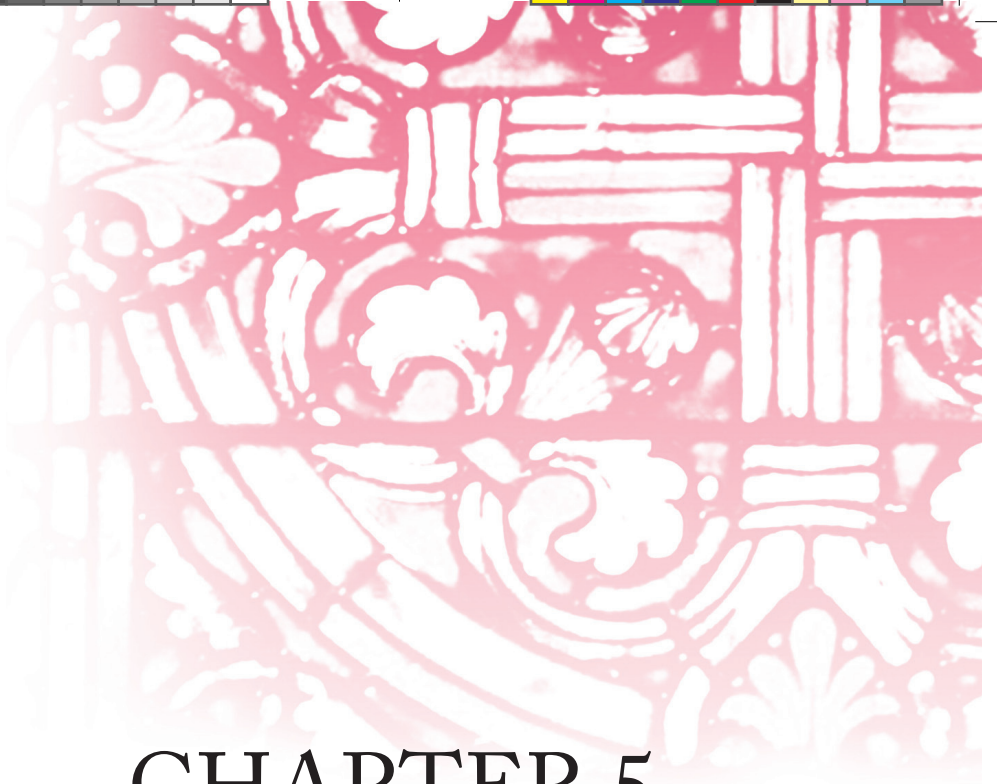


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# PRAYER

*Read Ephesians 5:22–24 and 1 Peter 3:1–6 in the Amplified version  
and pray for the grace to submit and honour your husband and the  
spiritual and parental authority over your life.*





# CHAPTER 5

*Quiet and Gentle Spirit*



**A** lot of pressure begins to pile up when you have been waiting for your miracle to show up.

At the beginning of the year it is written as one of the things God has to do before the end of the year. We pray over it, rejoice over it, but when the middle of the year arrives without any signs of wedding planning in sight, our convictions begin to wane slowly, then anxiety begins to creep in.

TICK! TOCK! TICK! TOCK! TICK! TOCK! The clock suddenly seems to be louder and time is whizzing past... July, August, September, Ah! Ah!





Sister is now in panic mode - in February she attended her friend's wedding with hope that her turn was very close, but before she knew it, her younger cousins got married. While the sister is waiting: worry sets in, then comparison, disappointment, hopelessness and then depression the giant takes charge.

These challenges of singleness cause people to lose peace; you need to cultivate a quiet and gentle spirit.

Peter 3:4 Amplified says,

*'But let it be the inward adorning and beauty of the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible and unfading charm of a gentle and peaceable spirit, which (is not anxious or wrought up), but is very precious in the sight of God.'*  
*A wrought up or angry spirit does not hear when the Lord is whispering directions or instructions. It is the voice of God that leads one to their destiny.*

Ecclesiastes 7:7 says,

*'Surely oppression destroys a wise man's reason, and a bribe debases the heart.'*

A person then begins to consider strange options and counsels such as becoming a second wife, having a child without marriage or even artificial insemination just to have someone in their lives - all wisdom departs because of a heavy heart.



You may need to tear down the wall of malice; bitterness and the not forgiving of others, in order to free up the arteries (remember the definition of vessels as blood veins?) Hebrews 12:15-16 says, bitterness defiles.

You need to regain your sweet disposition in the Prince of Peace and guard your heart diligently. Renew your fervency by prayer and worship.

Hebrews 12:12 says,

*'Therefore, strengthen the hands which hang down and the feeble knees.'*

Isaiah 30:15 (ESV) says,

*'In returning and in rest you shall be saved, in quietness and in trust shall be your strength, but you were unwilling.'*

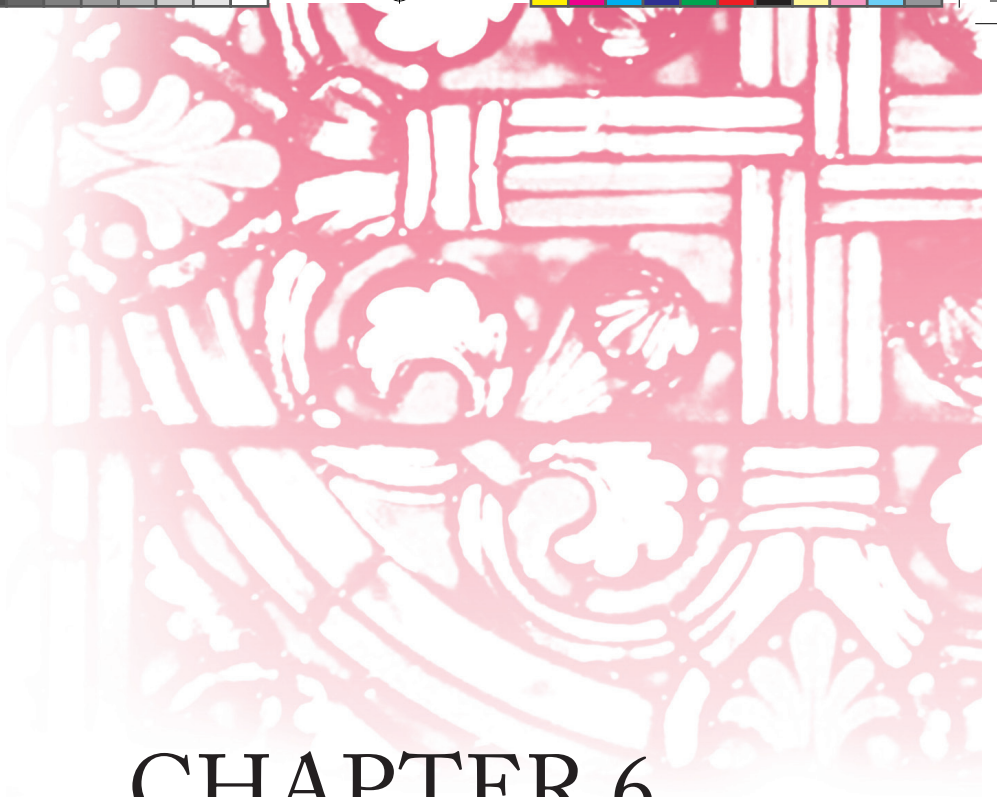
You need to actively choose to get back that quiet and peace in your heart.

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## PRAYER

*Father, forgive me for any malice, bitterness and the not forgiving of others that have crept into my heart.*

*Please fill me with your peace and love of the Prince of Peace in Jesus Name.*



# CHAPTER 6

*Sanctification*



**W**e have to maintain purity in body, thoughts and conduct.

When king Ahasuerus was ready to pick a queen to replace Queen Vashti in Esther 2:2; it was beautiful young virgins that were sought for him.

A premium is placed on purity because it is priceless as it is considered a sacrifice and service to the Lord.

Romans 12:1-2 says,

*I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.*





And do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.'

The world today encourages all types of compromise, even amongst believers.

Any relationship that puts pressure on you to sleep together before marriage should be avoided because it sets a very bad foundation.

Marriage is holy, the bed undefiled.

If for any reason whatsoever you have compromised, repent and start your life afresh and strive with all your might to flee - not stroll- from all appearances of evil.

The more you hang around, the more enticing it becomes, more excuses and justifications get fabricated into the web of deceit, and it just becomes a matter of time before a huge downfall comes.

When you remember the price Jesus paid, on the cross, and the disgrace your conduct may bring to His name, you will willingly stop.

Picture a beautiful white wedding dress on a bride, but as she steps out to walk into the church, a bucket of lime green oil paint is splashed on her, ruining her dress, make up and plans.





When you compromise your purity, you are the one who carried the paint bucket, opened it, lifted it and splashed it by your own conduct. It starts with one tiny step or action at a time.

Flee any situation that will lead you to defile your purity.

As you read this and you are convicted about those strange phone calls, magazines, films or actions, stop and repent.

Ask for forgiveness and mercy because God will forgive. 1John 1:9 says,

*'If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.'*

Go for counselling so you can be accountable to someone to help you walk in victory.

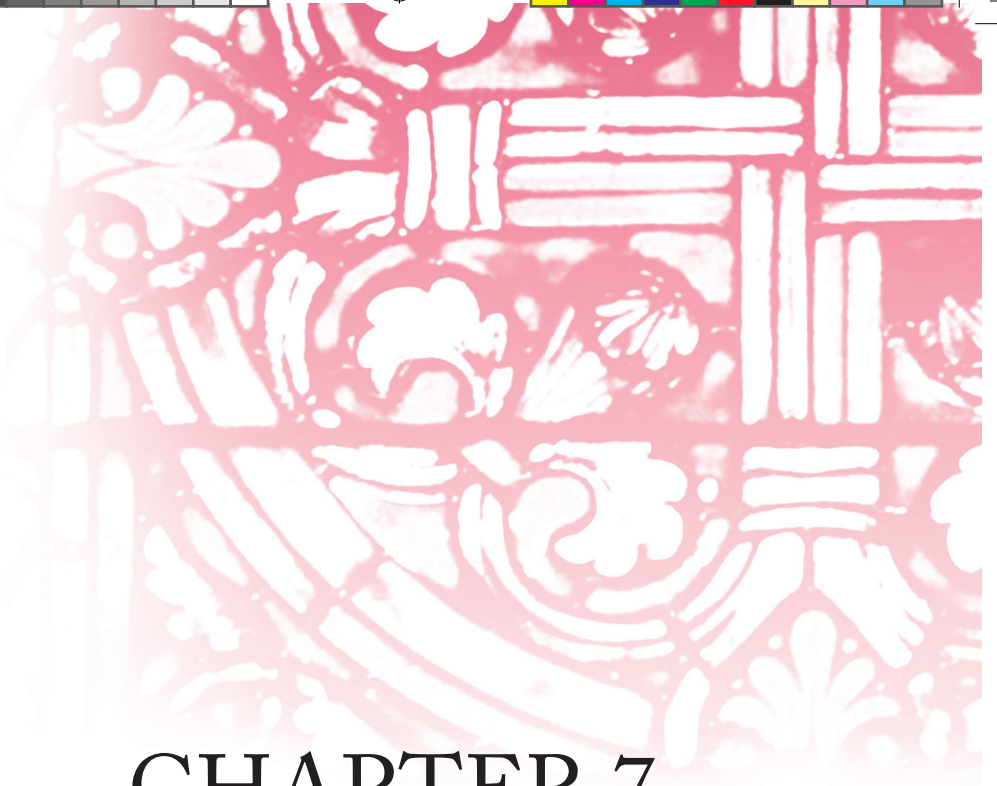
Fill yourself with the word of God, let it wash away every grime, filth and reproach of everyday situations.

Jesus is presenting you as His bride, Ephesians 5:26-27.

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## PRAYER

*Father please cleanse me, wash me with your precious blood Lord Jesus.  
Let your word wash away the stains or iniquity in my life.*



# CHAPTER 7

*Beauty and Preparations*



**W**omen generally enjoy taking care of their appearance, plan hairstyles, clothes, discuss trends, and when a wedding is being planned, the men focus on practical things like the date and venue, while all the women in the families are more interested in the colour code, dress code and the entertainment.



When Esther and other girls were taken to the king's palace a directive was given in Esther 2:3 that beauty preparations should be given to them.

In the Middle Eastern cultures, even various parts of Africa, elaborate beauty treatments are made on





brides for an extended period of time before their marriage.

These range from body massage, unwanted hair removal, special hairstyle, henna designs on hands and feet etc.

When the bride is for the king or prince, the stakes are higher.

She is taught court mannerisms, the act of conversation, decorum and how to walk like royalty. In Europe, where you have finishing schools; she soaks in milk too, uses various aloe, ointments and perfumes and is checked for any skin or other infections. The end result is usually very amazing.

In verse 12, each of the young ladies went through twelve months of preparation - six months with oil of myrrh, six months with perfumes and preparations for beautifying women.

This was meant to ensure that the women were attractive to look at and smell.

Because men are moved visually, our appearance is very important before and during marriage.

Many women give up on dressing well when they think they are past the age of getting married or they have married: so there is no need to maintain their good looks.



That is a great error because what catches the man's attention first is the appearance.

If that is good, he comes closer to investigate, but if it is not, it will take the angels to work overtime to get him closer.

When the man gets closer then he gets captivated by the inner person, the sweet spirit.

In Genesis 2:19, Adam named all the animals and whatever Adam called the living creature, that was its name - there was no long speech, he just named them: "goat", "horse", "cow" etc...

But in Genesis 2:23, when God brought the woman to him, Adam wrote a poem before naming her:

*'This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh, she shall be called woman because she was taken out of man.'*

It was much later in Genesis 3:20 that he remembered to give a name Eve - that is the power of the outward appearance to men.

We need to work on keeping a healthy lifestyle with a well-balanced diet, exercise and drink a lot of water.

Regular dental checkup is essential; find clothes that are age appropriate and fit your type of figure, as well as hairstyles that fit your face shape.



All things ought to be done in moderation to ensure you are a kingdom advertisement, not a satanic seductive billboard. If you prefer the more natural look, try to be neat and not appear “bushy”.

Dress your spirit man, as you also dress your body.

Study the Word, listen to messages, but also read newspapers, journals and magazines, so you can be confident to carry on conversations with diplomats or roadside hawkers at all levels. We are in the world, but not of the world, so we need to be aware of current affairs and financial developments in the environment.

Peter 1:5-8 says,

But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue, knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love.

‘For if all these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.’

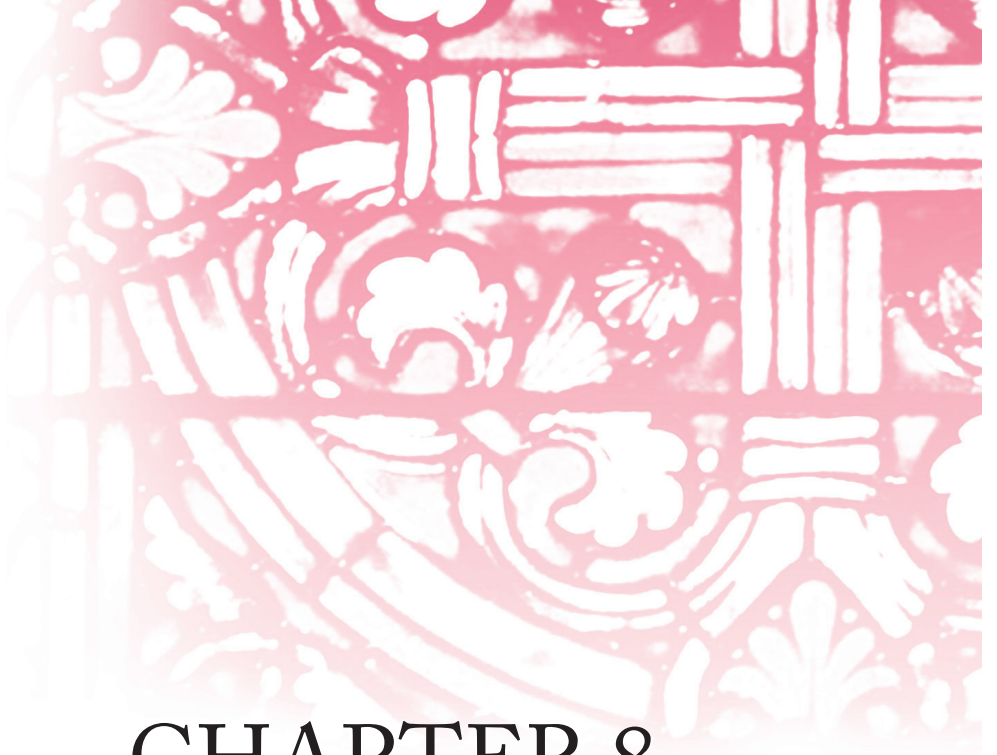


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# PRAYER

*Lord, teach me the right way to maintain the radiance, beauty and cleanliness you have created in me, in Jesus Name.*





# CHAPTER 8

*Submission to The Holy Spirit*







**A** woman who does not know how or who is not willing to be submissive is bound to have serious challenges in her relationships and marriages.



Lack of submission makes a person develop an 'unteachable' heart which leads to pride and destruction.

Traditionally, it was always expected for women to be submissive and subservient, which are two different things.

To be submissive is to be willing to accept somebody's authority and obey them, while to be subser-





vient is to be too willing to obey other people, while considering one's self less important.

The fine line of distinguishing these two is that a subservient attitude carries a tinge of inferiority complex in obeying all, while a submissive attitude goes with a clear focus of who is the authority figure one submits to.

The Bible is clear on the line of submission for women- submit to your husband who submits to God. If you are not married, you submit to your father - biological or spiritual.

Some women think that by being submissive they lose their identity, their right to have and express opinions, therefore they react when 'submission' is mentioned.

When you discover the strength that comes with submission, to the right authority it is no longer a struggle.

The right authority will uphold your trust, and not abuse your dignity and always consider your feelings and opinions before giving counsel or directive.

This will in turn make the woman even more willing to lower their guard and obey, with confidence that she will not be manipulated.



We should submit to the Holy Spirit who is our Counsellor, our comforter that Jesus has left to teach us all things. John 14:16, 26, John 16:13-15.

Esther was orphaned and taken in by her uncle Mordecai. She was submissive to him. Esther 2:7,10 and Esther chapter 4:1-17.

While in the palace, Esther had no direct physical access to her spiritual father Mordecai, but she had a mentor in Hegai, the king's Eunuch, the custodian of the women.

Esther 2:8-10, 12, 15.

Esther submitted to Hegai and was elevated above others to the best part of the house and the best servants (v.9).

Hegai knew what the king liked in women, the hairstyle, the type of perfume, clothes, jokes, food etc.

He then coached Esther specially; advised her on what gift to ask for and she found favour with all who saw her (verse 15).

Submission brings favour (Esther 2:15-18), when a woman submits to the Holy Spirit, He guides you in all things. He knows what your Prince, the son of the kingdom, wants and needs in a wife and begins to prepare you to fit in.



When I was young, my brother and I supported a particular football club, but I later lost interest in football.

About two years before I connected with my husband, I discovered I got interested in a particular football club and started following it enthusiastically - you can imagine the shock and surprise I got to find out from my husband - to be - that this club was his favourite - and we had a good conversation starter about it.

You see even tiny details like these are relevant to the Holy Spirit in His preparing you for marriage; it is to be guided by the Holy Spirit.

I also found myself reading books that have been very helpful to my marriage. It was much later that I understood why God had prompted me to buy them or people gave them to me.

In order to find favour, submit to the Holy Spirit as He leads you in all ways. He will direct your steps to mentors and instructors to guide you as beacons on the way.

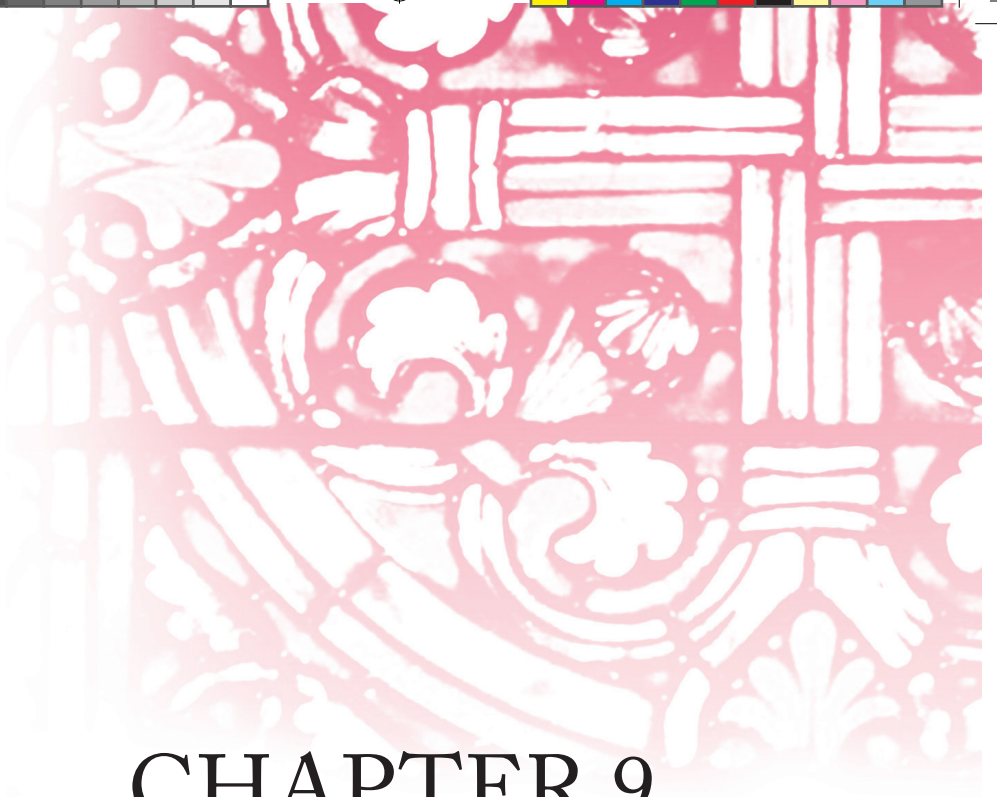


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# PRAYER

*Holy Spirit, I submit my all to your leading. Direct me to my mentor and rightful spiritual cover. Help me to obey your instructions, in Jesus Name.*





# CHAPTER 9

*Manage Your Emotions*



**E**sther was a devout Jew. Even though they were in captivity, Mordecai, her uncle, ensured that he maintained his roots, ancestry and identity as a Jew (Esther 2:5-7) and he brought Esther up as his daughter.



Try to imagine Mordecai's anguish as Esther was taken away to the king's palace, he paced in the front of the women's Quarters, daily, just to know about what was happening to her and possibly send reassurance that he was praying for her, Esther 2:11.

When you read the Old Testament, books of Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers, you find the strict details





of Jewish customs, statues and worship, so you can have an idea of Mordecai's heartache and Esther's state of emotions.

Esther was forcefully taken away from her roots, culture, family, fellowship and taken to a heathen king's palace where she would have to compete for the king's attention with hundreds of other rivals.

The consequences of not being chosen by the king, as queen, meant she faced life as a concubine, who would not see him unless she delighted the king and he called for her by name.

This was no beauty pageant, but a serious war of relevance.

So, what would Esther have focused on? The inability to attend worship or a prayer meeting, or the rivalry from her fellow competitors or the gossip?

Anyone who has an idea about polygamy knows that serious fetish practices, jealousy, envy, back biting and such abound, so you can imagine Esther's horror that she had to deal with idol worshippers and the strange cultures of her competitors.

Esther was lonely, homesick with all kinds of doubt and fears, but she held her peace.





She maintained a gracious spirit, a sweet disposition and an obedient heart, in spite of the adverse situation.

Mordecai had told her not to reveal her identity and she obeyed (Esther 2:10, 20).

This shows that she was not jumping up and down 'jisting' with all the others, she was focused; that if God permitted, she would be among the potential queens and be the one chosen.

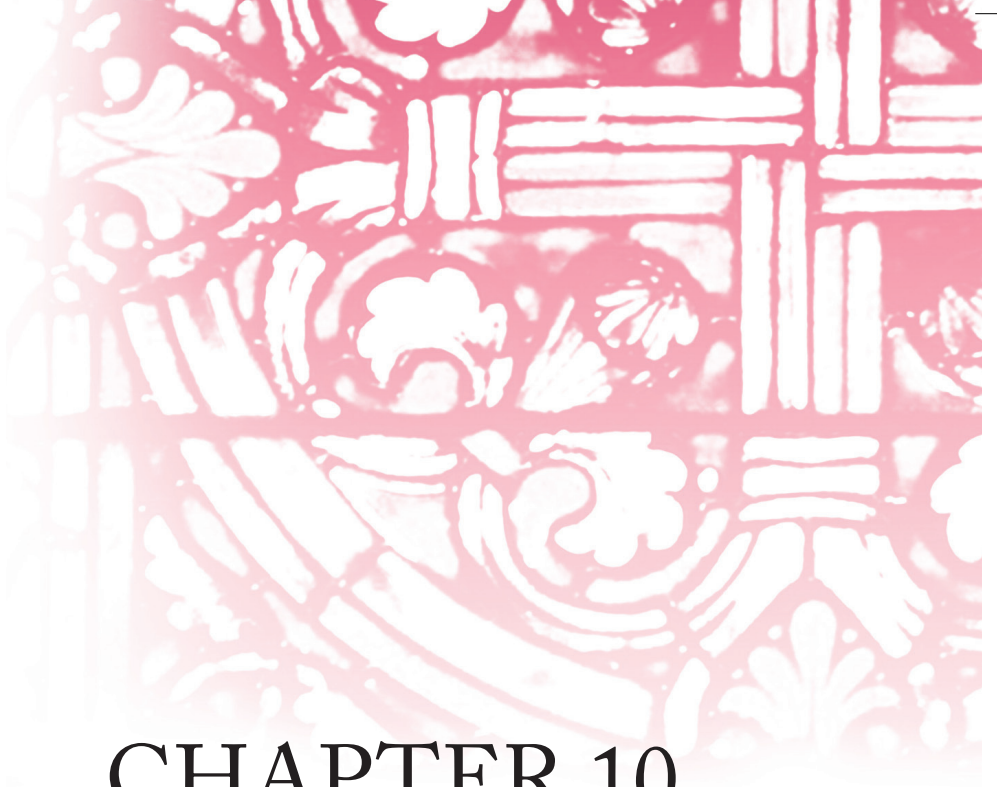
Be determined that you will be chosen, you will not be by-passed. You will make a mark and your testimony will resound, in Jesus name.

Like Esther, hold your peace, set your eyes on the prize for which you are running and manage your emotions.

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## PRAYER

*Lord, I pray for a spirit of focus, that in spite of all the distractions, I will make it, in Jesus name.*



# CHAPTER 10

*Patience While You Wait*



**E**sther had to wait for her turn to be called into the king's presence. The king had the feast and removed queen Vashti in the third year of his reign. (Esther 1:3-4), Esther was called into the king's chambers in the tenth month of the year of the king's reign, that is, four whole years after she was taken to the palace (Esther 2:16).



She had patiently completed her initial twelve months beauty treatment, but had to still wait another three years, before it was her turn.





What was she doing during that period?

Please remember that there was no internet, iPod, iPad, television, cable, even radio or school. There was nothing to distract her.

Every day she would be treated, pampered and then wait, wait, wait until the next day, then start all over again.

I like to think that during that period, Esther was developing other skills relevant for that era; language studies, needle point, embroidery or music?

She waited, she was persistent, and she knew she was on a mission to get the crown.

She must have learnt things that would make her dinner date with the king so outstanding, that he would not forget her.

She was not just focused on her body, to give him physical gratification, but her intellect, her charming mannerism and conversation skills.

The Babylonian kings were well learned in their days, so she needed to make an impact and be much more than just a pretty face.

What are you doing to add value to your life while waiting?





Learn new skills, go on evangelism, missions, do things that will enhance your quality of life and make you stand out in life and eternity.

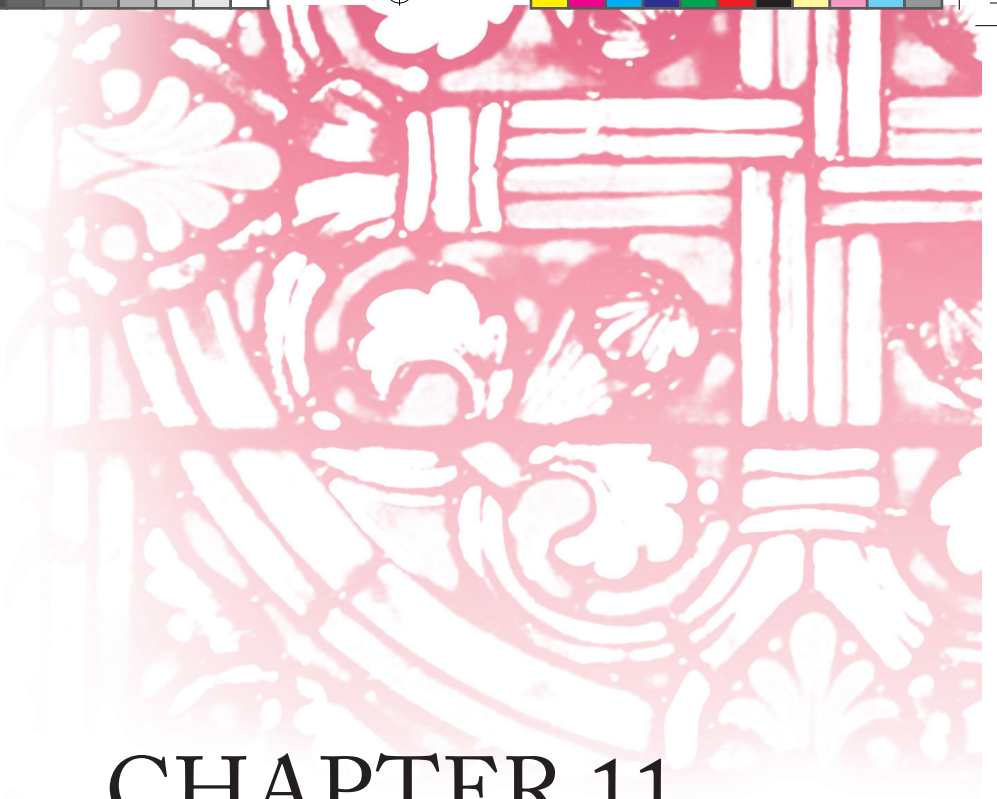
Be persistent as you wait. Esther's mission was not just the protection of the Jews, but the annihilation of their enemies (Esther Chapters 8 and 9).

Even though Haman had been destroyed, she ensured that what the Jews needed was the right to destroy all their tormentors, for her mission to the palace to be successful.

---

## PRAYER

*Lord I ask for grace to wait patiently to develop while I wait to accomplish my assignment in Jesus name.*



# CHAPTER 11

*Willing to Pay The Price*



**H**aman was willing to pay ten thousand talents of silver into the king's treasury for the destruction of the Jews (Esther 3:9).

He felt that destroying Mordecai alone was not sufficient – he needed to destroy what Mordecai represented – his identity, culture and kingdom relevance.

The battle you face currently is not just about you, but it is a battle over your life and generation.

You must be willing to pay the price to be a vessel chosen for glorification.





When gold is found deep in the mines, hundreds of feet in the deep dark earth, it takes courage for miners to get it out.

It is brought out with clumps of earth and mud, washed then passed through the fire to melt and remove the impurities.

It is then molded into bars and grade according to the quality- 9 carat, 18 carats, and 21 carats.

The Goldsmith then takes the pieces of gold, melts it and then begins to hammer, cut, chisel and design it before it comes out as a master piece.

Be willing to sit through the process because you will be an object of beauty and awe when the master craftsman is through with you.

Haman cast 'pur' (lot) for one entire year to enchant the king and set a date for execution of the Jews; he paid a price in an evil way for the year, daily consulting the enchanters.

Esther and her maids, as well as the Jews, also paid a price by fasting without food and water for three days before she went before the King, Esther 4:16.





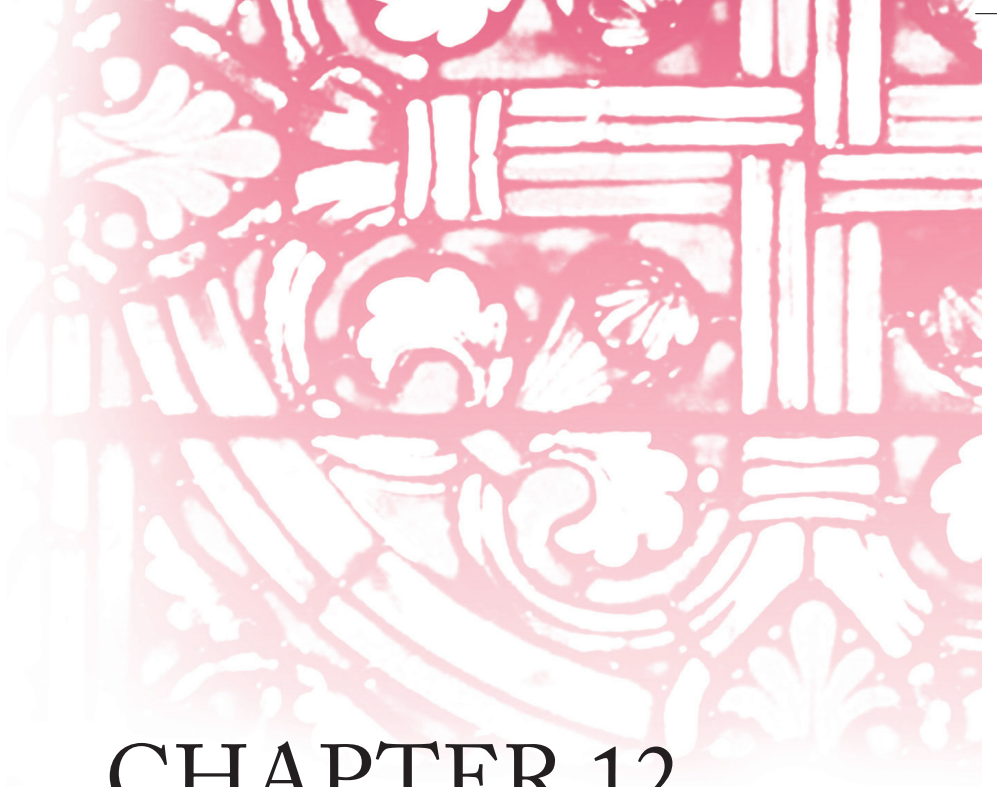
1 Peter 1:6-7 says,

*In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith being more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.'*

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## PRAYER

*Lord, I am willing to pay the price. I ask for grace to wait, not with anxiety, but with confidence, because you are faithful to complete what you started, in Jesus name.*



# CHAPTER 12

*Wisdom and Sensitivity*





**E**sther was sensitive in presenting her request to the king.

Haman was a powerful confidant of king Ahasuerus, whose opinion the king valued.



If she had not used wisdom, the plan could have been derailed. It is important to be aware of the timings for the fulfillment of prophecies.

When you are alert in anticipation, you know when to act and how to act.

She invited them for dinner twice and aroused the curiosity of the king and when the time was right she





spoke passionately. This was a skill she learnt while waiting to meet the king for the first time.

Read Esther chapters, 6, 7 and 8 and follow the sequence of divine timing.

When Esther reported to the king, he did not rush to make a pronouncement on Haman, but stepped into the garden to think, because Haman was special to him.

God now arranged Haman to make a costly mistake of lying down to plead on Esther's couch.

This scene looked worse than it appeared, so when the king came in, what he saw made him overrule any decision he may have made while thinking in the garden.

God had also stationed Eunuchs loyal to Esther to carry out instant judgment, while the king was still enraged (Esther 7:8-10).

God used Haman to complicate his situation and speed up his judgment.

When you wait for God's timing, the speed at which things work out is beyond explanation.

God is interested in seasons and when your season has come, He makes it all work for your good.



Daniel 2:21 says,

*And he changes the times and the seasons, He removes  
kings and raises up Kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and  
knowledge to those who have understanding.'*

All we need to do is to ask God to give us wisdom to  
know the times of our visitation.

As we take full action when He leads us, our testimo-  
ny will declare the glory of our God as a faithful cove-  
nant keeper.

I pray that you will receive the grace to be a chosen  
vessel of glorification in His hand.

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## PRAYER

*Lord, I ask for wisdom to understand the season of my visitation.  
Father influence and change the times and seasons to favour me in,  
Jesus name.*



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# SINNERS PRAYER

*Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, have mercy on me and forgive my  
sins, cleanse me from all previous evil covenants in my life.  
I accept you as my personal Lord and Saviour; rule and reign in me, as  
I live to glorify your name, in Jesus name,  
Amen.*





## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Maureen Mimidoo Fateh nee Tarka was born on the 12th of May 1964. She was the middle child and only female among seven siblings. The daughter of Senator Joseph Sarwuan Tarka; she attended Kaduna Capital School, Queens College Yaba, Lagos, and Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, from where she graduated with LLB in 1984.

She qualified to practice law in 1985 and from then had been exposed to various facets of legal practice, working as a pupil State Counsel at the Federal Ministry of Justice, State Counsel with the Benue State Ministry of Justice, where she spent six years before her career took a new direction in 1992, where she



joined National Properties Limited (later NICON Hotels), as Company Secretary/Legal Adviser.

Maureen remained in corporate practice until 2008, rising to become Deputy General Manager and Alternate Director at NICON Hotels Limited. She ventured into private enterprise, taking with her company Zadoo Foods, as well as partnering in the fee law firm, Legal Options & Co. A committed Christian, Maureen focused her energy on empowering and mentoring young Christians at her local assembly, Dunamis International Gospel Centre, Abuja and working closely with the Throne Room Trust Ministries, Kafanchan.

In early 2017, Maureen was diagnosed with Cancer and was called home on the 25th December, of the same year. She is survived by her husband, Fateh Apeh Fateh and their three children.

You can find out more, leave a message or simply remember Maureen, by visiting the memorial website, set up in her honour:

**[www.maurentarkafateh.com](http://www.maurentarkafateh.com)**





