

WELCOME ADDRESS AT THE NATIONAL RETREAT OF AGLOW INTERNATIONAL, NIGERIA.

My dear Aglow Leaders,

Greetings in the name of Jesus and welcome to the year 2022 in name of God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The year 2021 had promised us double grace and hence our theme John 1v17 "grace upon grace". We have gone through the challenges of the pandemic of COVID-19, economic hardship, health, etc. which we have surmounted by the Grace of God.

Having surmounted the challenges, we are now asking God to restore us as in Joel 2 verse 25 – God to restore the years the locust have eaten and Jeremiah 30 verse 17, to restore our health ravaged by COVID 19 and other pandemic.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2021

1. Due to the insecurity in the country, the National retreat was held virtually from the Headquarters in Jos with the theme Double Grace – John 1 v 17.
2. Regional Conferences were held around the country in the North East – Jalingo, South West – Abeokuta and South East – Uyo Ukanafun. We specially want to thank our sister – Dr. (Mrs) Bola Njoku the wife of the Deputy governor of Imo State for gracing the occasion and accepting to be one of the guest speakers.

However, due to the insecurity in the North West, the conference could not hold in Kaduna. We regret the inconveniences this caused our sisters in this zone.

We thank God for journey mercies, testimonies of people who gave their lives to Christ, healings, deliverances, breakthroughs, provisions the

teachings in various skills acquisitions for the empowerment of our women etc.

COMMUNICATION NETWORK FOR AGLOW NIGERIA

1. To facilitate network for Aglow Nigeria, members should try to be on Whatsapp. Please endeavor to buy phones with these facilities. This is particularly important for leaders.

Please we need to familiarize ourselves with the use of Social Media. Aglow is now on Facebook as a Fellowship.

AGLOW POWER HOUR:

This a new programme introduced to reach out to as an evangelism arm of the ministry. The world is going on line and unless we key into this technology our ministry could fizzle out and become irrelevant. God forbid this. All leaders will be involved in this programme. At the moment the area Presidents are involved. This will also go to the Board members, then to the Chapter Presidents and other Board members

ANNUAL ASSESSMENT:

It has been observed that tithes and membership due have not been forthcoming. This should not be so. In our local churches, we are all made to pay annual assessment to our various headquarters Churches according to the strength of each church. In addition, we pay annual levies or dues for projects to our various fellowships.

Aglow equally has commitment for running the headquarters in Jos, financial obligations to the International office, African committee etc. We need resources to commerce the building of Aglow headquarters in Jos.

It is in view of this above financial obligation that the National Board has directed every area Board should pay annual assessment of

₦100,000.00 (One hundred thousand naira). In addition, every National Board member has been paying ₦100,000.00 annually to the National account to brief up the financial purse for the past three (3) years.

We pray that God will give us more creative way to fund our various programmes through the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in Jesus name. (Amen)

COVENANT PARTNERS

The National Board has designed a Covenant Partners format, to solicit for funds from those who are interested in partnering with Aglow.

As we all can observe, though the gospel is free, the transmission of same is not free. The transmission via Radio and TV jingles, email, GSM, Outreaches, Whatsapp, travelling expenses etc cost money. I therefore appeal to our members to please accept to be covenant partners with Aglow. Your contribution can be monthly, quarterly or yearly. This is another creative way in which we can receive finance for Aglow. May God bless you as you identify with this project. you can fill in the format on our website or can approach the National Board, Area Board, Chapter Presidents or any member to signify your interest.

My prayer is that our God shall supply all our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus – Philippians 4 vs 19

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Our National conference will be holding in Owerri between the 25 – 28 of August 2022.

Venue: The venue will be communicated to us in due course.

Date: 25th – 28th August, 2022

CONFERENCE LEVY: This will be communicated to us by Sister Florence Vice President Conferences & Convention in due course.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: We want to thank our sister Dr. Bola Njoku for inviting us to Owerri this year for the Conference.

NEED FOR MORE EVANGELISM

For sometimes now, we have observed that membership of Aglow has been dwindling. At this retreat, we need to strategize on how to avert this trend. According to John 15:16, God has chosen and appointed us that we should bear fruit. Prov. 11:30, says "the fruit of the righteous is a tree of life and he who win souls is wise.

Also in Dan. 12:3, we are informed that those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever. If we abide and carry out the above injunction of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has promised that whatever we ask the father in my name He may give you (John 15v16). We pray that God will answer our prayer as we obey this injunction in Jesus name, Amen.

Some of the strategies that will assist us in our evangelism will further be discussed in my paper on Divine Direction latter in the course of the retreat.

May the Holy Spirit give us creative ways to improve on our evangelistic strategy in the mightily name of Jesus Amen.

AGLOW INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER MINISTRIES SIMILAR TO AGLOW

Please let me reiterate again as stated on page 22 of the Aglow International Nation Leader Handbook, revised (2015) concerning involvement with other ministries similar to Aglow, that in keeping with our policy of not promoting other ministries (non-financial participation) to promote other with Aglow meetings or be financial participants.

ROLE OF ADVISORS

As leaders we must get acquainted with reading of the Aglow Leadership Handbooks. Of note is page 39 on the Basic leadership training Resource Manual on Advisors meetings, please note that we are to hold 2 or 3 meetings with our advisors in a year.

Note that it is mandatory for each chapter to have at least two advisors.

GENERATION GROUP

Please each Area Board, should make sure this group is functional and vibrant. We should catch them young. With God nothing should be impossible for us to achieve and implement in the precious name of Jesus. Open a Whatsapp group to capture them to enable you monitor and plan for their training and interest.

AGLOW THURSDAY PRAYERS AND FASTING

We will all recall that Aglow worldwide prayer and fasting is every Thursday of the week. it is therefore mandatory that every Thursday is declared prayer and fasting for Aglow family all over the world. There are requirements that God wants you to meet for His power to be poured upon you. I also advise you to pay the price and become a carrier of His power, presence and glory. One of the spiritual requirements for obtaining full power is through prayer and fasting. No wonder in Mark 9 vs 29 it says "This kind can come out by nothing except by prayer and fasting". when you pay the price of power, you set to coveted price, I encourage you my sisters to key in with this network. We need this power of prayer of Fasting to achieve our breakthrough. Aglow Ministry and for our family.

May the Good Lord help us to be obedient in this calling in Jesus Mighty Name Amen.

AGLOW UNIFORM

We are aware of the demand for more uniform, the National Board had to embark on the production of more uniform. While we had taken delivery of the uniform, we are yet to settle our debt. We wish to appeal to our members to buy these uniforms so that we can off-set our debt. A piece of 5 yards costs ₦5,000.00 (Fiver Thousand Naira Only). Area President should please contact Sister Florence, a member of the National Board on 08034724188, to place order for your zone.

AGLOW BIBLE STUDY

Some of the spiritual requirements for obtaining God's power apart from being a prayer warrior, emphasizes Bible study. It is by studying the word of God that we can grow in wisdom and understand the instruction of God. Aglow Nigeria has printed these bible study books for our spiritual growth and development. Aglow National has spent so much money to get the Bible Stydy books printed. Area President should please contact Sister Larai Keswet, the National Secretary on 08036180658 to get copies for their zones. Please purchase them so that we won't have to tie down our money that can be used for other projects.

NOTES FROM AGLOW INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

1. We now have a new African Coordinator in the person of Joan Bennet. She replaces Jervae Brooks who had to resign to take care of her ailing husband.
2. The Aglow African Committee, in the recent planning for administrative purpose has placed the following countries for the oversight function of Nigeria - Ghana, Cameroon and Northern Sudan,

please pray for me and my Board to be able to carry out this assignment to the glory of God.

3. This year Aglow International celebrates her 55th anniversary as a Christian fellowship. Our international President has asked us to sow a sum of the sum of \$55, or \$550, or \$5500, or \$55000 etc. to commemorate this anniversary. This request is highlighted in her annual 2022-year message, which I will be posting to your e-mail.

AGLOW HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

In order to commence the building of our Aglow Headquarters in Jos, we need to complete the necessary paper documentation with the Plateau State Ministry of Lands and Survey, Jos. Those who are familiar with this process would attest to the fact that it costs a lot of money. This and other mandatory expenses call for financial support into Aglow Account from our Members.

THE THEME FOR THE YEAR

Our theme Restoration suggests that we in Aglow need Divine Restoration for the years the locust has eaten. This is evident in decrease in membership, chapters, zeal, commitment etc. God has promised that he will restore us this year 2022 in the mightily name of Jesus, Amen.

Zec. 10v6 says "I will strengthen the house of Judah and save the house of Joseph, I will restore them because I have compassion on them. They will be as though I had not rejected them, for I am the Lord their God and I will answer them."

What have you lost – as a fellowship, member, your restoration is coming

1. Restoration of health. (Zec. 30v17)
2. Healing of wounds and diseases of your marriages (Matt. 19) and restoration of love into your family.
3. Restoration of wasted years – lost direction for your shame, I will give you double. (Ish. 61:7)
4. Restoration of your family Acts 16:15 – Lydia, the prodigal son Luke 5 vs 11-32.
5. Restoration of finances 2nd Corth. 9:8 – finance in abundance – insight, idea.
6. Restoration in ministry, loss of impact, power anointing e.g Samson Judges 16:21-22. Job 42:10
7. Restoration of hope that builds up expectation in singles, in business, visa Rom. 15:14 the God of
8. Restoration of souls. Luke 4:19
9. Restoration of lost glory.
10. hope.

Song: we have an anchor

10. Restoration in our businesses and career – Psalm 1 v 3.

Restoration is imminent when we exercise.

1. Our faith
2. Plead the blood of Jesus then
3. God will reveal to us what to do to restructure our restoration
4. Lord give us a word that will lead to our restoration.

Lord everything lost to the devil, let it be restored to my family, the ministry of Aglow in Jesus name – for our shame give us double. In the name of God the father, God the sun and God the Holy Spirit, Amen.

CONCLUSION

1. In conclusion, I want to thank you all our esteemed leaders for your support for your labour of love in the vineyard of God in the year 2021. We enjoin you not to relent, not to be weary while doing good for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart Gal. 6verse 9.

2. Please let us encourage ourselves in the words of Hebs. 11 verse 6 "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

3. Please be strengthened that according to Philippians 4;13 that I can do all things through Christ who strengthen us.

Finally, my sisters in the Lord, according to 2nd Cor. 9v8 (New Kings James Bible) And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiencies in all things may have an abundance for every good work.

2. New Living Translation – And God will generously provide all you need, then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with other.

May this be our testimony and declaration and affirmation in this year of our restoration in the name of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Ghost, Amen.

Please find attached a copy of our declaration for the year 2022 for our year of God's Restoration which we shall be reciting at all our gatherings – be it at weekly or outreaches. May the Lord confirm our declarations in Jesus name. Amen.

**BISI ADELUYI
NATIONAL PRESIDENT
AGLOW INTERNATIONAL,
NIGERIA.**

From the desk of Jane Hansen Hoyt....

At the beginning of the year, I always desire to have a fresh word from the Lord to hear what He is saying and where we are going. It was interesting that I tuned into a Christian television program last night. As I listened to the speaker, I found what he was saying to be very thought provoking – we are in God’s waiting room.

Exposure, Expectation, Elevation

As I pondered the thought of being in God’s waiting room, three words began to form within my Spirit.

The first is **EXPOSURE**. Things will be exposed this year. In His mercy, He has waited on people to choose to do what is right. My sense is that He gives us time, and time, and more time, as a parent would with their child. Yet, as we refuse to allow His dealings to bring us to a place of repentance, as a merciful Father, He has no choice but to expose what is hidden. He does it so that we will begin to make other choices that align with the purposes of Heaven.

EXPECTATION is the second word. We might not be giddy like a kid before Christmas, but there is a deep sense of expectation that God is at work and something is going to emerge. I particularly feel this in relation to where we are in the Third Day Awakening.

It seems that it has begun and it is unfolding around us. It brings a sense of expectation in many areas of our lives. Hope for a fresh outpouring. Hope for a harvest of souls. Hope for promises fulfilled.

And the third word is **ELEVATION**. I believe that as He exposes and cleanses us, and adjusts our expectations, there is coming an elevation. I believe it has begun. He is gracious and there are not thousands of people waiting ahead of you. This word of elevation primarily includes our walk with Him. He is bringing us all higher.

Toward the end of the holidays, I did something I love to do--go back into some of my old books. I can hardly read some of the treasures without crying. I love one by Hudson Taylor, who with his wife was a missionary in China in the 1800s. His heart was for God. As they were laboring in the mission field, he felt this sense of expectation and a desire and realization that he needed more.

In his book *The Exchanged Life*, he talks about his experience of “the inward seeing of the more.” Seeing it set him free to walk in it. Here are his words:

Wonderful was the experience that had come in prayer. Yet so simple as almost to baffle description. It was just as it was long ago. Whereas I was blind. Now I see. The glory of a great sunrise was upon me. The inward light whose dawning makes all things new.

Hudson was aware of how his mind had been occupied with many thoughts....

...it was not from anything I have read as much as from a consciousness inwardly of failure, a constant falling short of that which I felt I aimed at, that I should aim at. An unreal, a perpetual striving to find some way by which one might continually enjoy the communion, the fellowship at times so real, but more often, so visionary, so far off. I thought the striving, longing, hoping for better days to come was the true way to holiness, happiness, usefulness.

I have been struck with this passage from a 19th century Christian writer, Stephen Higginson Tyng, that became a beloved life concept for Hudson Taylor.

The Lord Jesus revealed is holiness begun. The Lord Jesus cherished is holiness advancing. The Lord Jesus counted upon as never absent would be holiness complete.

He went on to say:

...what I was seeing was the abiding, not striving or struggling, looking off unto Him, but now a trusting Him for present power. Resting in the love of an almighty savior, in the joy of complete salvation from all sin. Not just now, forever. I feel as though the dawning of a glorious day had risen upon me.

I hail it with trembling yet with trust. I seem to have gotten to the edge only but of a boundless sea. To have sipped only but of that which fully satisfies. Christ literally seems to me now to be the power, the only power for service. The only ground for unchanging joy because Christ is all.

I've read this book many times because it's a truth we know.

As I sense this coming year, I feel He is going deeper with foundational truths; not just a new word or truth we are caught up with. He is saying, "I am going to take you deeper into what you might call old or foundational truths." Because it is only as the foundation is built strong and unshakable, as the days ahead come to us, that we will stand on a firm foundation that cannot be moved.

We Know

As I have read, I found myself drawn to 1 John 5:18. The words **WE KNOW** jumped off the page. That says a lot right there. There is a knowing deep within us that has grown and flourished and flowered. It is unshakable and immovable.

"**We know** that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God, keeps himself." Keeps himself! "And the wicked one does not touch him." (NKJV)

Verse 19: "We know that we are of God. And the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one." (NKJV)

The next verse (20) starts off, "And **we know** that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding..." And here is that phrase again, "...that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son, Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life." (NKJV)

Think of Hudson Taylor's life concept, "The Lord Jesus revealed is holiness begun. The Lord Jesus cherished is holiness advancing. The Lord Jesus counted upon as never absent is holiness complete." Just that short paragraph alone fits in with, "We know!" There are some things we know that make us immovable.

No matter what comes in the days ahead, We Know! We Know! What treasures. That really is the Christian life. It is Christ in me! Christ in us! Who is our Hope! Who is our Strength! Who is our Power! He is our Patience! He is our Joy! He is our Everything!

We Are in God's Waiting Room

We are in God's waiting room now. That is comforting to me. That is why the 1 John scriptures about "we know" struck me. We need to know some things with a surety so we

are not swayed by the situations taking place on earth. We are upon solid ground as we live out of Christ.

A New Level of Faith

I read in Dutch Sheets' Orlando 2021 Sunday morning message notes, where he speaks about a supernatural, mystical atmosphere around us. We are living in a supernatural time where God is calling us to a new level of faith because Calvary is all about faith!

The other night I was listening to an old hymn, "At the cross, at the cross, where I first saw the light. And the burden of my heart rolled away. It was there by faith I received my sight. Now, I am happy all the day." The words of those old hymns are like singing the Gospel message. As I listen and sing along, my spirit begins to rise – elevate – in worship. There is a lifting up over the things of the world.

He is calling us to a new level of faith. Having your soul cleansed from sin is about faith. Exposure! Expectation! Elevation! All about faith. Faith goes with 1 John 5. Some things we know are unshakable. That knowing IS faith!

Prophetic Promises that We Know

These words spoken over the ministry are powerful treasures. Expect wisdom and revelation to take you to places of deeper understanding of these truths. I want to remind you of a few spoken to us since our 50th-anniversary celebration.

- » Aglow does not take cues from the world, we take our cues from the Kingdom within us.
- » Aglow has been re-mantled and recommissioned with Kingdom Authority gaining air supremacy.
- » Aglow has remained a fresh wineskin that moves in wisdom and revelation.
- » Aglow is a giant-killing organization.
- » Aglow is coming into a greater anointing to birth the purposes of God in the earth.
- » Aglow is made up of teams who know how to respond rapidly to developing situations.

Those are a few of the hundreds of prophetic promises spoken to us. Expect Holy Spirit to give you insights that cause you to see a deeper meaning in each promise. We know some things!

Closing Prayer

Lord, we anticipate this New Year not knowing fully what it will bring, but knowing that You are with us in the midst of it. WE KNOW!

We know who You are. We know how You love us, how You cover us, and supply all that we need. Thank You for the dependence that You keep us in. This year we will glorify You in all that we do and say. Thank You that You will help us do that, because that desire comes from Your heart.

We are in Your waiting room. In due time, we will know what is next. You have spoken to us about our future. A Third Day Awakening is coming and we are part of it. We are waiting and will follow Holy Spirit as He leads us.

In Faith,

Jane Hansen Hoyt
President/CEO
Aglow
International

P.S., We know we are celebrating our 55th anniversary in 2022. Please celebrate with us by donating \$55, or multiples of \$55, as Aglow stretches our tent pegs to reach all 222 nations.