**Cross and Crown Christian Outreach**

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**You Need A Mentor**

**“How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. -** Acts 8:31 NIV

Phillip was one of the disciples of Jesus Christ who due to the great persecution that broke out against the followers of Jesus Christ in Jerusalem, had to move Samaria – Acts 8:1-4. In his new location, he never stopped preaching the gospel and the grace of God was so much on his ministry that several miracles were recorded which brought great joy to the people of the city – Acts 8:4-8. In the course of this is ministry activity and spiritually led by the angel of the Lord, he was directed to the chariot of an Ethiopian eunuch who was an important official and head of the entire treasury of Kandake (means the queen of Ethiopia). He had travelled all the way from his location to Jerusalem to worship and was on his way back. While seated in his Chariot, he decided to read the scriptures, specifically the book of prophet Isaiah. Following further directives of the angel, Philip moved close to the chariot and heard him reading the scripture. Probably needing to start a conversation, he asked him if he understood what he was reading and his response is the foundation scripture for today’s devotion – Acts 8:26-31.

In his response, he made it clear that it was practically impossible for him to understand it if there was no one to teach him so he invited Phillip to join him in his Chariot, an invitation that Philip quickly accepted. For someone who had shown so much devotion to worship, it was only after Phillip spent time explaining the scripture that he had been reading, probably for ages, that he understood the basics of his religion. He ended up doing the needful and his acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and savior became official. He was baptised and welcomed into Christendom – Acts 8:34-40. The following points are worthy of note in the life of the Ethiopian eunuch:

1. He was no doubt very devout in his worship. There is no way someone who is not devoted will travel a distance of almost 4,200km even if it is on a once in a month basis to worship if he is not devoted to that cause.
2. He was also a worshipper who loved to read the scriptures as was evident in this case.
3. His devoutness and love for reading the Word was however not enough as he still remained in ignorance and could have died being only a church goer and not a saved believer.

Many Christians there are today who are just like this Ethiopian eunuch. There is absolutely no doubt about their commitment to the faith. Through their contributions, physical and financial, it is very obvious that they believe in the cause that they have decided to associate with but it is very likely that they will lose the full opportunity to be so recognised before the Almighty God and his son, Jesus Christ. This is simply because they will be ignorant of the right thing to do. They will have zeal buy lack knowledge of how to do what they are doing rightly. The Ethiopian eunuch helped himself by openly admitting that he needed help despite his open display of zeal for the faith. That seems to be the missing bit of the puzzle for the Christian today. There seems to be so much intellectual arrogance and urgency to become a leader without any form of service under a mentor. The question will always be the same as that of the Ethiopian eunuch which when re-phrased will be, “how can you know what you claim you know when no one thought you”. Accessing the correct information about Christianity will majorly be through direct teaching by the Holy Spirit and a teaching carried out by a human mentor. Both are two sources that the Christian today is either rejecting directly or indirectly.

Yes! The Holy Spirit as a teacher remains the best source but how can anyone possess the Holy Spirit without another mentoring and growing such to the point of receiving it. Meanwhile, Christians today hardly find time to join other Christians in sharing and acquiring the knowledge of the Word. The implication is the evolution of Christian leaders today with hardly any authentic knowledge of the Christian doctrine. It is impossible to give what you do not have just as it is impossible to have what you lack if you do not find someone who has it and is willing to give it. The end result of all these is will be hard-working Christians with little or nothing to show for their zealous Christian life. You may actually be a victim of such flawed developmental process and that could be the reason for the unproductive nature of your Christian life.

You can correct things today by seeking a mentor to help you understand the requirements of the Christian life better. No doubt that will be a huge leap into that life of comfort that you have always desired. May God himself teach us His ways using His own chosen mentors so we can have a more productive Christian life in Jesus name. Amen.