

THE CHURCH OF PENTECOST



2022 BIBLE STUDY AND HOME CELL GUIDE

(Volume 1)

ENGLISH

*Compiled by
National Discipleship & Leadership Development Committee*

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The National Discipleship & Leadership Development Committee

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FOREWORD

The Vision 2023 has the overarching theme, Possessing the Nations: Equipping the Church to Transform every Sphere of Society with the Values and Principles of the Kingdom of God. So far, we have considered the sub-themes - I Will Build My Church (2019), A Glorious Church to Possess the Nations (2020) and A Glorious Church, Revived to Possess the Nations (2021). All these themes were meant to help us understand the true nature of the church and to stir up revival in the church. Having achieved that, despite the challenge of the Covid-19 pandemic, I believe it is now time to unleash the church into the world to bring the desired effects in the various spheres of the society. Therefore, for 2022, we have chosen the sub-theme, Equipping the Church as an Army to Possess the Nations (Heb. 13:20-21, Eph. 4:11-12, Eph. 6:10-11).

The church enters the world on two fronts – first as an army in an enemy’s territory, which calls for putting on every available defensive mechanism for battle. Then, the church enters the world as an agent or ambassador of the Kingdom of God. As an agent, the church, like salt, permeates every sphere of society with the values and principles of the Kingdom. These include principles such as the dignity of labour, service, respect for all, honesty, kindness, love, faithfulness, truthfulness, forgiveness, contentment, humility, integrity in word and deed and moral uprightness to generate the desired transformation.

Therefore, the theme for this year calls for vigorous and intentional mobilization and equipping of the church, and to get every member assume the posture of a soldier who is ready to take the nations for the Lord. In doing this, the members of The Church of Pentecost need to understand from the lenses of Scripture, the social, political and spiritual forces at work in the various spheres of society and to build defences against their onslaught. The emphasis therefore is on equipping the church with the armour of God, rather than on spiritual warfare. This armour is forged and furnished by God Himself (Heb. 13:20-21), and He invites us to put them on (Eph. 6:13) at all times. As an Army of God, we must never relax in our vigilance but, be concerned with the sort of values and standards that rule our world or determine their culture. Where these values and standards contradict those of the Kingdom, we are obliged to contend for godly values and principles with the view to transforming society and thereby possess the nations for Christ.

The leadership of the National Discipleship and Leadership Development Committee (NDLDC), deserve much commendation for their painstaking and consistent efforts to ensure the compilation and timely publication of this study manual. The Bible Study materials have been carefully developed to guide the entire church to be equipped through the study of the theme for the year. This year, the Bible study outlines are developed from the scripts presented during the 2021 November Heads Meeting.

The scripts have been simplified in an orderly yet comprehensive way to equip members in order to unleash them as an army of Christ. The Bible Study and Home Cell Groups will continue to serve as the focal points for effective engagement.

The inductive approach to the discussions is intended to engage members for reflection and create an atmosphere of lively discussions and mutual exchange of ideas. It is key that no one sits on the fence. We are all encouraged to get involved and share our thoughts guided by the word of God.

This manual provides an important avenue to be intentional in equipping the members and leaders of the church to ‘take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ’ (2 Cor. 10:5). “But on Mount Zion will be deliverance; it will be holy, and Jacob will possess his inheritance. Jacob will be a fire and Joseph a flame; Esau will be stubble, and they will set him on fire and destroy him. There will be no survivors from Esau.” The Lord has spoken... Deliverers will go up on Mount Zion to govern the mountains of Esau. And the kingdom will be the Lord’s’ (Oba. 1:17-21. NIV)

It is my earnest prayer that as we engage in the Bible Study, we shall be equipped and move as ‘Deliverers’ from Mount Zion (the church) to transform and take captivity captive in our bid to possess the nations.

God bless you.

Eric Nyamekye (Apostle)

Chairman, The Church of Pentecost Worldwide

INTRODUCTION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The theme for 2022 as chosen by the Chairman and the Executive Council of The Church of Pentecost is, 'Equipping the Church as an Army to Possess the Nations' (Heb. 13:20-21, Eph. 4:11-12, Eph. 6:10-11). In order to ensure a consistent, comprehensive and in-depth discussion on the theme in small relational groups, a systematic study outline has been produced by the National Discipleship and Leadership Development Committee (NDLDC).

This year, the manual is to be produced termly, spanning a period of four months for each manual. This is a slight departure from the previous years, but it is meant to make the material handy as well as allow the committee to make critical inputs in the subsequent versions as may be necessary. Therefore, this volume is not exhaustive of the theme of the year; the other topics will be handled in the next volumes.

In line with the theme for 2022, three key scriptures have been developed into this volume-The Church as an Equipping Center in Carrying the Possessing the Nations Agenda, Mobilising the Squads for Effective Impact in the World and Equipping the Church with the Word of God as the Sword of the Spirit. The topics gleaned from these scriptures include: Overview of 2022 Theme, The Church as an Army, The Church as an Equipping Centre, Equipping the Church as an Army, Equipping The Church Through The Teaching

Ministry, and Equipping the Church Through New Converts & New Members Class.

Other scripts are on Equipping the Church Through the Home Cell Groups, Heed to the Macedonian Call, Equipping the Church Through the Bible Study Groups, The Kingdom Method of Evangelism, Mobilising the Army of God, Squad Formation in the Army. The rest focus on Equipping the Church Through Ministries, Individual Responsibility in the Squad and Agent of Transformation-Sow Seeds of Change in your Sphere.

As a committee, we are grateful to God for the opportunity to serve. We are also indebted to the Chairman of The Church of Pentecost, Apostle Eric Nyamekye for his keen, visionary and passionate leadership. The General Secretary, Apostle A. N. Y. Kumi-Larbi, the International Missions Director, Apostle Emmanuel Agyemang Bekoe and the entire Executive Council Members are highly commended for their various forms of support and direction.

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The members of the National Discipleship and Leadership Development Committee (NDLDC) are extremely applauded for providing direction, inputs, and painstakingly editing the final version of the scripts and ensuring their production. They are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Pastor Emmanuel Pateeco Arthur | - Secretary |
| Apostle William Boakye Agyarko | - Member |
| Apostle John Budu K. Tawiah | - Member |
| Ps. Samuel Edzii Davidson | - Member |

- Ps. Eric K. Ansah - LLTS Organiser
Ps. Joseph Owusu Boateng - Member
Ps. Enock Tawiah Narh - Member

Our utmost prayer is that this study material will amply create the desired thirst in us all, to avail ourselves to raise an army of God, well equipped to possess the nations for Christ. God bless you.

Samuel Kojo Gakpetor (Apostle)
Coordinator, NDLC

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WEEK 1
LORD'S SUPPER SUNDAY

WEEK 2

THE OVERVIEW OF 2022 THEME

Main Texts: Ephesians 4:11-12; 6:10-17; 2 Corinthians 10:3-6; Hebrews 13:20-21

Memory Verse: *Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do His work and build up the church, the body of Christ.* – Ephesians 4:12 (NLT)

Introduction

The church's theme for the year (2022) is 'Equipping the Church as an Army to Possess the Nations. In Matthew 16:18, Jesus states that 'I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it'. Jesus's statement is a metaphorical view of the Church as an army whose enemies cannot overcome it. The Church as an army, therefore, will engage in battle with spiritual forces and will always triumph. This is not a physical battle, but one in which we contend with strongholds and belief systems that seek to exalt themselves over the knowledge of God.

It also engages principalities and powers in heavenly places. To remain victorious, the Church must be fully equipped with divine weaponry to possess the nations for Christ. With reference to apostle Paul's writings in the main texts, we will look at why the Church is likened to an army, the weapons of the church for battle, the significance of equipping the Church, and the focus of the Christian battle.

Questions for Discussion

1. How is the Church likened to an army?
2. What is the battle the Church engages in? 2 Corinthians 10:4-5, Ephesians 6:12
3. Why must the Church be equipped as an army? Ephesians 4:11-12
4. List the weapons the Church must be equipped with for warfare. Ephesians 6:14-17
5. In what practical way must you work as a soldier to please your Commander – Jesus Christ?

Conclusion

The Church is likened to an army, mainly because it engages in battle. However, it is unlike other armies as they are engaged mostly in physical warfare. The Church, on the other hand, engages in spiritual warfare with spiritual weapons to possess the nations for Christ. These weapons are the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace, the shield of faith, helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

The Church must be equipped with these weapons so that its members will be prepared to do every good work, which is pleasing to God (Heb. 13:20-21). These weapons help the Christian to demolish the strongholds of human reasoning and false arguments, every proud obstacle that keeps people

from knowing God, and to capture the rebellious thoughts of humanity by teaching them to obey Christ. As soldiers of Christ, we must work to please our commander – Jesus Christ – by possessing nations for Him.

WEEK 3

THE CHURCH AS AN ARMY OF GOD

Main Text: 2 Corinthians 10:3-6

Memory Verse: *The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary they have divine power to demolish strongholds.* – 2 Corinthians 10:4

Introduction

An army can be defined as a group of people selected and equipped to advance the cause of a nation or kingdom. Thus, to liken the church to an army depicts the church as God's primary instrument of combat against systems of the world which militate against the reign of godly principles and values. Like an army, the Church exists for both defensive and offensive operations. The offensive operation does not suggest violence, but underscores the constant and needful warfare the church must wage to 'take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ' (2 Cor. 10:5). Our discussion today will help us appreciate the necessity of this imagery as we seek to possess the nations with Kingdom principles and values.

Questions for Discussion

1. Why is the Church described as an army of God?

2. Discuss the meaning of the statement ‘we do not wage war as the world does’. Verse 3
3. Identify characteristics of the Christian’s weapon for warfare. Verse 4
4. What are some of the arguments against the knowledge of God in contemporary times?
5. How can you, as a soldier, or the Church, as an army, pull down the strongholds of this age?

Conclusion

To see the Church as an army of God is crucial in these times. It projects the primary mission of the Church and appeals to the battle sense of the Church Militant. It is a wake-up call to the reality of the continuous battle against powers of this dark world, spirit of deception and spiritual forces of evil that cause humanity to rebel against God. Some arguments and philosophies which cause humans to rebel against God include moral relativism (i.e. what is morally right or wrong depends on individuals, and there is no absolute), self-existentialism (exploring the human existence through thinking, feeling and acting), hedonism (the pursuit of pleasure or self-indulgence) and religious pluralism (the belief that all religions are salvific and all religions are good and are of equal value).

The army of God must not panic and throw her hands in despair at the mention and expression of such beliefs and perceptions. Rather, the Church must mobilise her troops and equip them to sufficiently engage their spheres and take them captive through the power of the Holy Spirit. For this mission, the Church as an army is calling on all members to make themselves available to be equipped and unleashed into their respective territories to influence them for Christ.

WEEK 4

THE CHURCH AS AN EQUIPPING CENTRE

Main Text: Hebrews 12:18-24

Memory Verse: *Deliverers will go up on Mount Zion to govern the mountains of Esau. And the kingdom will be the LORD's.* – Obadiah 1:21

Introduction

Every army has a training ground, where the soldiers are trained for battle. The army of God (the Church) is no different. The Church is an equipping centre where members are equipped as 'deliverers and saviours' (Obadiah 1:21) of their spheres of influence. In the Old Testament, God revealed himself on Mount Sinai in fearful ways, and the Israelites could not approach Him. However, in the New Testament, God reveals himself on Mount Zion (the Church). According to the main text, the Church is now where God dwells, making it a seat of power. In the Church, God equips His people and releases them as 'deliverers and saviours' to possess and transform ungodly societies (likened to Mount Esau) for Christ. In this lesson, we aim to explore this theme in the light of Hebrews 12:22-24.

Questions for Discussion

1. How does the passage contrast Mount Sinai and Mount Zion?

2. What are the features of Mount Zion that make it a seat of power? Verse 22-24
3. In what ways can the Church fulfil the mandate of equipping the saints?
4. How do you understand the memory verse? Obadiah 1:21
5. How does your knowledge of the Church as the dwelling place of God affect your conduct in church?

Conclusion

Hebrews 12:22-24 reveals that the church gathering (Mount Zion) is the city of the Living God – the heavenly Jerusalem; innumerable angels in joyful assembly; the firstborns whose names are in heaven; the presence of God – the judge of all the earth; the spirits of the righteous made perfect; Jesus – the Mediator of the new covenant; the sprinkled blood that speaks better things than Abel’s blood. The Church is different from other human gatherings because it is a gathering unto God and Christ where the saints are equipped to deliver the world. The local church must be a place of reverence and solemnity before God where teachings, prayer and discipling are geared towards making people ‘deliverers’ and ‘saviours’ to reach out to Mount Esau (the ungodly world). Since the Church is the seat of power and epicentre for equipping ‘deliverers and saviours’ with ‘the better word’, we must come to church with yearning hearts to receive and become effective salt of the earth and the light the world.

WEEK 5

EQUIPPING THE CHURCH AS AN ARMY

Main Text: Ephesians 4:10-14

Memory Verse: *We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*
– Ephesians 2:10

Introduction

Equipping is a fundamental requirement for battle. It covers the totality of doctrine, principles, values and physical resources necessary for combat against opposing forces. An equipped soldier is confident of success on the battlefield. This confidence stems from knowledge and faith in the resources they have been endowed with to confront the enemy effectively.

Against this backdrop, the Church as an institution is a rallying point and equipping centre where people are made ready for service through purposive teaching and sharing of experience. God has made provisions for the Church to fulfil the equipping mandate. He has endowed her with gifts to equip members with giftings of believers known as the ascension gifts (Eph. 4:11-12). Our discussion today will help us identify and make optimal use of the resources at our disposal for the equipping mandate.

Questions for Discussion

1. What is the purpose of the ascension gifts? Verses 11 and 12
2. Discuss what it means to prepare God's people for the works of service. Verse 12
3. How important is the task of equipping in relation to the Vision 2023 agenda?
4. What are the marks of an equipped church? Verses 13 and 14
5. What systems and structures can be put in place to ensure members are equipped in the local church?

Conclusion

To equip is to make a person adequate, ready, fit or sufficient for a task. Thus, equipping the body of Christ is certainly linked with God's intention of filling the universe with His knowledge and rule. Therefore, preparing believers for the works of service implies helping them to mature in faith. This then brings them to the point where they are fully aware of their responsibilities and are empowered to fulfil them.

When the Church is equipped, we attain unity of faith, gain knowledge of the Son of God, and are no longer tossed about by any wind of doctrine. For this reason, all structures and activities of the Church (teachings, liturgy, programmes, seminars, songs, etc.) must feed into this overarching agenda of equipping the saints to be functional in their various

spheres of influence. The foregoing activities should not serve their own ends, but be co-ordinated purposively in ensuring that every member is armed with the knowledge and will of God concerning their spheres of influence. Pastors, officers, ministry leaders and other leaders who constitute the main resources for this combat must each play their unique roles to prepare God's army (the members) for victory in all territories.

HOME CELL –
THE POWER OF GOD’S WORD

Main Text: 2 Timothy 3:14-17

Memory Verse: *Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.* – 2 Peter 1:20, 21

Introduction

The phrase, ‘the Word of God’ is used in different ways. It refers to any word that God has inspired. It is also used for the actual spoken words of God. In the New Testament, *logos* and *rhema* are two primary Greek words meaning the written word and the spoken word, respectively. Both refer to the word of God. The phrase ‘the word of God’ is also used to refer to God’s written word, the Holy Scriptures. As we are being ‘equipped as a church to transform every sphere of society with values and principles of the Kingdom of God’, it brings to the fore the importance of the knowledge and understanding of the word of God.

Questions for Discussion

1. What did Timothy know from his infancy? Verse 15
2. What makes the word of God unique? Verse 16a
3. Describe how the word of God was received by men.
2 Peter 1:20-21

4. Discuss the usefulness of the word of God.
5. In what ways can you engage the word of God to equip yourself and your family for every good work?

Conclusion

It is important to understand that the ‘Word of God’ is the Bible in various forms – print and electronic. It is a collection of God’s inspired words spoken or written by human authors as they were inspired by the Holy Spirit. In His dealings with humanity, God made His character, mind, will, purposes and expectations known and captured in the Bible. Failing to catch the revelation of the divine inspiration of the Bible renders it an ordinary book written by human beings with many authors.

However, the Bible is not just a history book; it is the word of God; it reveals God’s intents and purposes for humankind. The Bible is accredited by God for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. It is the manual of life for the believer since it contains all that a person needs for their life’s journey (both spiritual and physical). As a manual then, one needs to interact with it by disciplines such as daily reading, studying, meditating, praying, memorising, reciting and practically living by it. Also, we must teach it to our children as well as those who do not know God’s mind.

WEEK 7

EQUIPPING THE CHURCH THROUGH THE TEACHING MINISTRY

Main Text: Isaiah 2:2-4

Memory Verse: *If I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.* – 1 Timothy 3:15

Introduction

People are enlisted in the army of Jesus Christ from different backgrounds. They come with different ideologies and beliefs. In order for them to serve well in this new environment, they have to be taught the doctrine of the army of Jesus Christ. Therefore, the teaching ministry of the CoP is critical to equipping the Church as an army. In order to transform their spheres, members must be taught the values and principles of the Kingdom of God, which are contrary to the values which the world has inculcated in them.

Questions for Discussion

1. What can the mountain of the LORD's temple (in the Old Testament) be compared to in the New Testament? Verse 2
2. What qualities did Isaiah the prophet give to the mountain of the LORD's temple? Verse 2

3. Why would many people go to the mountain of the LORD? Verse 3
4. What does it mean to say, “The law will go out from Zion”? Verse 3
5. How can we effectively make use of the various teaching avenues (Bible Study, Home Cells, preaching from pulpits, retreats, seminars, etc.) in the church to equip members to maturity?

Conclusion

The mountain of the LORD’s temple can be likened to the church in the New Testament. Zion, at one time in history (in the Old Testament), meant a physical dwelling. In the New Testament, it is likened to the Church. Isaiah mentioned that the mountain of the LORD’s temple (the church as an institution) will be the most important place where people will stream to worship. They will be taught His ways so that they may walk in His paths. The Church (Zion) is the pillar and foundation of the truth. That is why the law will go out from the Church (Zion). Jesus, the head of the Church, is the truth (Jn. 14:6), and His word is truth (Jn. 17:17). This should inform those who teach at various levels in the church to prayerfully prepare adequately so that members of the Church can be equipped.

WEEK 8

EQUIPPING THE CHURCH THROUGH NEW CONVERTS' AND NEW MEMBERS' CLASSES

Main Texts: Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 9:26-29

Memory Verse: *But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. He told them how Saul on his journey had seen the Lord and that the Lord had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had preached fearlessly in the name of Jesus. – Acts 9:27*

Introduction

The major focus of Vision 2023 is premised on the understanding that the local church is the focal point for most of the church's spiritual life and developmental activities. Thus, it serves as a training centre for Christians who are disciplined to project Christ to the world. Jesus commanded us to go, preach, baptise and to teach the new converts: this is the main source of enlisting people into the Church (army of God).

Another form of enlistment is through holding the new members' class. This is for members who join the church from other denominations or from other locals or districts of CoP. How such members are handled from the outset is very crucial to equipping them as a military squad (small group) in possessing the nations. Our text in Acts reveals how Paul, who could be likened to a new member, was rightly assigned to a squad of disciples in Jerusalem.

Questions for Discussion

1. According to Matthew 28:18-20, what qualifies one to be considered a new convert?
2. Why did Paul find it difficult to join the disciples in Jerusalem? Acts 9:26.
3. How was Paul integrated into the ‘squad’ of the disciples in Jerusalem? Acts 9:27
4. Why do you think the New Converts’ and New Members’ Classes are important in the local church?
5. How can the New Converts’ and New Members’ Classes be made more effective as equipping centres?

Conclusion

As part of the Church’s Intentional Discipleship mandate, it is expected that ministers and local officers give special care to new converts and new members. When a person accepts Christ and is baptised, they are enlisted into the army of God (the church). New Converts’ Classes should therefore be encouraged and organised in all assemblies to equip new converts with the word of God. Paul, as a new member, found it difficult to join the disciples because they were afraid of him due to his past life. Through the efforts of Barnabas, he was helped to join a small group (squad) of disciples in Jerusalem. The role Barnabas played in introducing Paul is important in integrating new converts and members into the local church.

New Members' and New Converts' Classes help to ground members in the faith. In these classes, there are manuals for teaching, to help members understand their new-found faith and the fundamental tenets of the church. The New Converts' Class is for those who have accepted Christ and have been baptised (or are being prepared for baptism).

The New Members' Class is for those who are already Christians but wish to join the local church through marriage, change of church, place of residence, etc. Like Barnabas, district ministers, all officers and mature Christians must pay close attention to and organise classes for the new converts and members who join the local church. In addition to this, church leaders must run retreats for them and spend time with them in prayer, teaching and counselling for effective assimilation.

WEEK 9

EQUIPPING THE CHURCH THROUGH THE HOME CELL GROUPS

Main Text: Acts 20:18-21

Memory Verse: *Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.* – Acts 5:42

Introduction

In the army, fellowship is crucial for building morale, ensuring discipline, unity and loyalty. It is the binding force of teams and squad formation. The body of Christ also thrives on fellowship which is at the heart of what the body of Christ does. The early Church believed in this concept, thus, to deepen it, they structured their meetings to include meeting in the homes of members.

This system enhanced their level of intimacy (Rom. 16:3-16): they identified needs, worked towards meeting them (Galatians 2:9, 10), and also engaged in some community development initiatives (Acts 9:36-39). In the CoP context, our Home Cells are to serve as avenues for such intimate fellowship that will let everyone feel that they belonged and unearth potentials, meet needs and undertake communal activities and initiatives. To discourage participation or downplay its importance is to deny the church a vital training ground for equipping the saints for mission.

Questions for Discussion

1. Describe how Paul lived with the saints in Asia. Verse 18
2. How open was Paul's life before the people? Verse 19
3. How did Paul use the Home Cell in Asia to equip the saints? Verse 20
4. Why is it necessary to develop interest and participate in Home Cell meetings?
5. How will you make Home Cell meetings more involving, participatory and engaging for all members in your community?

Conclusion

The Vision 2023 of The Church of Pentecost states, “*Home Cell system shall be a platform for impacting communities. In view of this, our home cells will be made community-friendly*”. We can take initiatives that will impact the communities. For instance, issues to be discussed or topics to be treated should be relevant to the community. When Paul arrived in Asia, he mingled with the people and lived among them. He opened up his weaknesses and strengths to them to the extent that they knew of his humility as well as threats. In order to ensure that the church in Asia was well equipped for mission, Paul did not only teach them in the churches, but also from house to house (Home Cell).

In the CoP context, members of the Home Cell are to meet monthly, and we are to ensure that it works. We must all become campaigners of the Home Cell concept by reminding one another, inviting friends and making the meetings more beneficial to all members and the community at large.

HOME CELL –

**THE WORD OF GOD AS THE
SWORD OF THE SPIRIT**

Main Text: Ephesians 6:17, Hebrews 4:12

Memory Verse: *Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.* – Ephesians 6:17

Introduction

Various images have been used to describe the Bible, one of which is the ‘sword’. The sixth piece of armour that Paul discusses in Ephesians 6 is the *sword of the Spirit*, which also represents the Word of God. In both the Ancient Near East and the Greco-Roman world, the ‘sword’ was the most important weapon for warfare. It was used as both a defensive and an offensive weapon. It was double-edged with a sharpened point to make it pierce an armour for deeper penetration. The word of God, however, is not just a sword; it is the ‘sword of the Spirit’. The Spirit of God is the author of the word of God, and He also uses it for the transformation of humanity. Our discussion today focuses on the word of God as the sword of the Spirit.

Questions for Discussion

1. Which weapon of war was the Bible likened to? Verse 17
2. Why do you think the Bible is described as the ‘sword of the Spirit’?

3. What is the nature of the Bible as the sword of the Spirit? Heb. 4:12a
4. How does the Holy Spirit use the word of God as a sword? Heb. 4:12b.
5. In what ways can you make use of the Bible as the sword of the Spirit?

Conclusion

The *sword of the Spirit*, which is the word of God, is part of the Christian's armoury in the fight against evil. The writer of Hebrews made it clear that the word of God is sharper than any double-edged sword. The *sword of the Spirit* speaks of its source and owner. It belongs to the Holy Spirit and is given by Him. The Holy Spirit makes the Word divinely powerful and effective, making it alive and giving it a cutting and piercing edge.

It is the sword of the Spirit because it is of God. The word of God has been likened to sword because of its ability to pierce even to the dividing of the soul, spirit and human heart and the physical body (joints and marrow). It is so potent that as it enters into a person, it brings about transformation. It also has devastating effect on Satan and his cohorts. To effectively use the word of God as the sword of the Spirit, we must study, memorise and declare it in battle.

WEEK 11

MCKEOWN MISSIONS DAY – HEED THE MACEDONIAN CALL

Main Text: Acts 16:5-15

Memory Verse: *During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.'* – Acts 16:9

Introduction

The missionary enterprise of The Church of Pentecost has witnessed remarkable progress in the past decades. Currently, the church is operating in 109 nations of all seven continents of the world. Despite this enviable feat, there are more grounds to cover in the nations where the church is operating. More so, there are fallow grounds of nations, cities and people groups ready for the seed of the gospel.

According to the Ghana Evangelism Committee, there are 19 people groups in Ghana who have not been reached with the gospel. Some are the Kantosi, Fofoo, Djula and Challa. Thus, the church, as an army, must stop at nothing but a complete takeover of all nations, bringing them under the rule of Christ. For this mission, the call is being made to everyone to come on board through prayer, personal evangelism and financial support, just as Paul was called to Macedonia.

Question for Discussion

1. How did Paul and his team respond to the vision of the man of Macedonia? Verse 8-10
2. Discuss the significance of the leadings of the Holy Spirit in missions. Acts 13:2-3; 16:5-7
3. What was the outcome of Paul's obedience to the Macedonian call? Acts 14,15; 17:4
4. Identify specific people groups in your area who are unreached with the gospel.
5. How can we support the church's vision to reach all nations and people groups with the gospel?

Conclusion

The Apostle Paul started his second missionary journey with the aim of visiting churches established in Southern Asia Minor. However, a vision of a man of Macedonia calling for help redirected his route from Asia Minor to Macedonia in Europe. Heeding to this call, Paul and his team of workers treaded unfamiliar grounds, planting churches in the Macedonian cities of Philippi (Acts 16:40), Thessalonica (Acts 17:4) and Corinth (Acts 18:1-11). These churches later contributed immensely to the growth of the church (2 Cor. 8:1-10).

In our time, the Macedonian call could be likened to the cry of the lost, the call on friends of missions to support missionary work, and for prayers to be lifted for missions on

Missions Prayer Day (every Wednesday after Communion Sunday), and reaching unreached nations and neglected people groups. It is a divine charge for the army of God to venture into unfamiliar terrains with the gospel. It is a commission to avoid complacency and push hard till the nations, cities and people groups bow to the reign of Christ Jesus. No place is too dark for the light of the gospel to penetrate. The army of God (the church) must, through faith and obedience to the leadings of the Holy Spirit, conquer territories through Prayer, Evangelism and Sacrificial Giving.

WEEK 12

EQUIPPING THE CHURCH THROUGH THE BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Main Text: Exodus 18:13-24

Memory Verse: *They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. – Acts 2:42*

Introduction

Armed Forces are well structured to ensure effective command, control and mission accomplishment. As soon as soldiers pass out from training, they are grouped into a body system, comprising ten or fifteen people known as the squad. In like manner, the church groups members into a body system made up of people not more than fifteen at the local level known as the Bible Study groups. These are discipleship groups where members are intentionally equipped with the values and principles of the Kingdom through a systematic study of the Bible, mentoring, visitations, prayers, among others. Today, we shall discuss how we can effectively and efficiently use Bible Study group as an equipping body to unleash members to possess the nations.

Questions for Discussion

1. What was the problem with the way Moses was handling the people? Verse 13-16
2. What was Jethro's advice to Moses? Verse 20-22

3. When implemented, how would Jethro's advice help Moses and the Israelites?
4. How does Jethro's advice relate to Bible Study groups in your Local?
5. How can the Bible Study Group be made effective in equipping the members?

Conclusion

Jethro observed that Moses alone stood to judge the people and to help them deal with their various problems. The elders did not seem to play a role, and all the people were just standing around the whole day waiting on Moses to guide them.

As a result, most of the needs of the people were not met, and everyone, including Moses was worn out. Jethro advised Moses to divide the people into smaller groups and appoint trustworthy men with good character to judge the people. Similarly, in the local church, organising the members into Bible Study Groups becomes a necessity for discipleship.

The group is not just a place for learning scripture but a centre for transformation through activities such as teaching, fellowship, life-on-life relationships, modelling of Christ-likeness, accountability, and leadership development. The Bible Studies are preferably held on every Sunday (excluding the Communion Sunday) after worship. As much as possible, it must be made compulsory for all church members, officers, leaders, ministers and their wives.

The studies must be properly arranged, controlled, supervised, monitored and managed as directed. Through the preparatory classes, Bible Study leaders must be prepared adequately to handle the lessons to have the needed impact. The Bible Study leaders must also provide pastoral care to all members in their groups.

WEEK 13

THE KINGDOM METHOD OF EVANGELISM

Main Text: Matthew 13:24-29, 37-40

Memory Verse: *As you go, preach this message: 'The kingdom of heaven is near.'* – Matthew 10:7

Introduction

Every army has a strategy for enlisting people. Regarding the Kingdom, the Church undertakes evangelism as the method of enlisting people. Evangelism is the spreading of the Good News to the world. It is announcing that Jesus Christ is the only Son of God who gave His life as a sacrifice for the sins of humanity. Evangelism is very important, for it leads to the fulfilment of the Great Commission (Matt 28:18-20). Thus, it helps the church to win more souls into the Kingdom of God, enlisting them as soldiers in God's army. On how evangelism should be carried out in God's Kingdom, Jesus uses the parable of the wheat and weeds as a metaphor to describe it. Our focus for today's study is on the evangelism strategy of the Kingdom as described by Jesus.

Questions for Discussion

1. How did Jesus refer to these in the narrative: Son of Man, the field, the good seed, the weeds, and the enemy?
Verses 37-39
2. Why did the enemy sow the weeds among the wheat?
Verse 28

3. Why did the master stop his servants from uprooting the weeds? Verse 29
4. How is the good seed among the weeds related to evangelism?
5. In what ways can our members – ‘planted’ in every sphere – be equipped to win their peers and transform their spheres?

Conclusion

Jesus’ parable on the wheat and weeds gives a description of the method of evangelism in the Kingdom of God. Jesus referred to the Son of Man as the farmer who plants the good seed, and the field as the world (the spheres of life). He also referred to the good seed (or wheat) as the people of the Kingdom (believers) sown into the world by the Son of Man (Jesus Christ) to transform and advance it. Further, Jesus referred to the weeds as unbelievers, and the enemy as the devil. The devil sowed the weeds to possibly gain control of the world.

The master, however, prevented his servants from uprooting the weeds to forestall injuring the good seed (believers) and disturb the earth (world). As believers, we have been strategically ‘planted’ in the world to transform its systems with Kingdom principles and lifestyles such as the principle of work and the dignity of labour, service, respect for all, honesty, kindness, love, faithfulness, truthfulness,

forgiveness, contentment, humility, integrity and moral uprightness that identify us as a people belonging to God. The church (sending agency) must therefore equip her members to achieve this task.

HOME CELL –

**THE PURPOSE OF THE SWORD
OF THE SPIRIT**

Main Text: Matthew 4:1-11

Memory Verse: *The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.* – 2 Corinthians 10:4.

Introduction

The sword of the Spirit is an important part of the armour of God, intended to be used both offensively and defensively by Christians. In ancient Rome, the soldier used the sword as an offensive weapon against enemies and as a defensive weapon to deflect attacks by an opponent. So also is the word of God valuable in fighting spiritual foes and quelling spiritual attacks. With reference to Jesus' encounter with the devil in the wilderness, He was tempted in three areas but emerged victorious with the word of God. Jesus was tempted to turn a stone into bread (lust of the flesh), bow to Satan and be given the whole world (possession and power) and to throw himself down from the highest pinnacle to demonstrate He is the Son of God (pride). In today's study, we will discuss how we can demolish strongholds with *the sword of the Spirit* as Jesus did.

Questions for Discussion

1. With what three things was Jesus tempted by the devil?
Verse 2-3, 5-6, 8-9
2. In these three temptations, how did the word of God as *the sword of the Spirit* serve as a defensive weapon?
3. How did Jesus overcome the devil's temptations?
Verse 4, 7, 10
4. How potent is *the sword of the Spirit* in our battle?
2 Corinthians 10:4
5. Share how you can effectively wield the sword as an offensive tool.

Conclusion

The devil's temptations focused on three crucial areas: physical needs and desire, pride of life and possession and power. Jesus was able to resist all because He did not only know Scripture, but also applied it rightly. As a defensive weapon, the Word gives us strength and courage to face any situation we are confronted with in order to overcome. The word of God helps us to know the character of the enemy and how he operates. It also helps us to know and understand the ground on which we stand, and the protection and privileges at our disposal. As a result, the Christian sees through the devil's tricks, and with *the sword of the Spirit*, strikes when the need arises.

WEEK 14
LORD'S SUPPER SUNDAY

WEEK 15

MOBILISING THE ARMY OF GOD

Main Text: 1 Chronicles 12:1-3, 21-22

Memory Verse: *Day after day men came to help David, until he had a great army, like the army of God.* – 1 Chronicles 12:22

Introduction

In the military, mobilisation is the act of assembling reserve forces for active duty in times of war or national emergency. Members of the reserve force are valued extremely for their role in safeguarding the security of the state and helping with the maintenance of essential government or private utilities.

This is a clear pictorial view of the divine mission of God for the Church, which is to mobilise forces that would work to redeem the souls of sinners from eternal damnation. Thus, as God's army, the Church should mobilise members from the grassroots (the local church) to reinforce urgency of the mission to possess the nations. There should be no room for idling around; every member must be mobilised.

Questions for Discussion

1. Which group of forces joined David's army and how skilful were they? Verses 2, 8, 16, 19, 21
2. How did the forces from the tribe of Manasseh help David on the mission? Verse 21
3. What strategy did David use to mobilise the group of reserve forces into his army for mission? Verse 17, 22

4. Practically, how can the Church mobilise more forces (Christians) into the army of God for mission?
5. What special role can you play in the 'possessing the nations' agenda?

Conclusion

The expert archers from the tribe of Benjamin and brave warriors from the tribe of Judah and Gad assisted David to ascend the throne as king (1 Sam. 30:1, 9, 18). Also, warriors from the tribe of Manasseh constituted the group of forces which joined David's army to recover everything that the Amalekites had taken. To have a stronger force for battle, David ensured a daily mobilisation of forces into his army till it became like the army of God. He did this by going out to meet them, speaking kindly and striking alliances with them.

In like manner, the Church must bring all members on board on a daily basis for mission. In addition, members must daily engage in evangelism to win more souls who will be discipled and mobilised into the army of God for mission. Just as every force has a special ability in their line of duty, every Christian has to identify their special skill in ministry and put them to use to help the Church possess the nations for Christ.

WEEK 16
EASTER SUNDAY

WEEK 17

SQUAD FORMATION IN THE ARMY OF GOD

Main Text: Mark 6:6-13

Memory Verse: *Calling the Twelve to him, he began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over impure spirits. – Mark 6:7*

Introduction

A squad is a soldier's most intimate group of personnel constituted as soon as they pass out from training. They are made up of ten or fifteen soldiers in two to three teams with team leaders. Each team in the squad is given a task to accomplish and the Team Leader accounts on their behalf to the Squad Leader. This affords team members the opportunity to learn from one another and also build their skills as they get to know more from their immediate supervisors. This is similar to what Jesus did in sending the Twelve in groups of two. Today, we shall discuss how the local church can form squads of believers for battle using Jesus' model.

Questions for Discussion

1. How did Jesus choose His disciples (squad)? Verse 6 and 7
2. What specific assignment was given the squad? Verse 7
3. How effective were the teams Jesus formed from His squad of disciples? Verses 12 and 13

4. How is Jesus' model of teams and squad formation being applied in the local church?
5. How can we make the Home Cell the training and fellowship centre to impact the community?

Conclusion

In forming His 'squad' of disciples (or soldiers), Jesus went about from village to village, teaching the people, and through that he called the Twelve. He paired the disciples in teams and sent them out for mission. The teams were so effective in carrying out the task they were assigned. In addition to casting out evil spirits, the disciples preached to every soul they met, healed the sick, and anointed them. In our church today, Jesus' model of squad and team formation can be found in our New Converts' and New Members' classes – which should be the first point of call to becoming a member of CoP. These ministries enable the interest of members to be identified. They are then assigned to those ministries (squad) with a mature person in charge as the leader as is done for the Bible Study and Home Cell groups in CoP.

HOME CELL –
THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Main Text: Matthew 28:16-20

Memory Verse: *He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation'.* – Mark 16:15

Introduction

Every agency has a mission for their establishment. Their mission statements give the reasons for their existence. The Church, instituted by Christ, also has a mission which flows directly from the mission of God. The mission of God (Missio Dei) is to redeem His creation through Jesus Christ so that His glory will fill the whole world. Thus, the Church exists as an agency of God to mobilise an army to fulfil this mission. After His death and resurrection, Jesus Christ, the Commander of God's army (the Church), charged the followers to disciple the nations with His values, principles and teachings (becoming His disciples). They were to do this until every sphere of society or nation submitted to His authority as Lord. In this study, we will focus on how the mission of the church in these contemporary times can be pursued.

Questions for Discussion

1. What is the mission of the Church? Verses 19-20

2. How can the Church fulfil the mission of God (Missio Dei)? Verses 19-20
3. How can the CoP local Assembly pursue the mission of God?
4. What are some of the challenges that keep the Church from pursuing the Missio Dei?
5. In what ways can you or the church fulfil the mission of God?

Conclusion

The Church's mission is the Great Commission. It is making all nations disciples of Christ through evangelising, baptising and teaching. By so doing, the Church as an army is fulfilling God's mission to redeem His creation through Jesus Christ. In this way, the glory of Jesus Christ will fill the whole world. The Church must engage in discipleship through all forms of evangelism, teaching, mentorship, etc. to effectively make all the nations disciples of Christ. Though we face challenges which at times keep us from obeying the charge of our Commander, we must intentionally make every effort to overcome them.

WEEK 19

WOMEN'S MINISTRY WEEK-EQUIPPING THE CHURCH THROUGH MINISTRIES

Main Text: 1 Corinthians 12:14-26

Memory Verse: *Now the body is not made up of one part but of many.* – 1 Corinthians 12:14

Introduction

As in the army, The Church of Pentecost has gender-based and age-related ministries to equip the members on specific issues that relate to the group. One of the ways of equipping the Church is by getting each member actively involved in ministry activities. The more involved a person becomes in the ministry work, the more important the Church becomes in their life. A church which offers people opportunities to be involved in ministry activities would be more successful in winning and retaining converts than those which do not. If the church does not effectively use her members, she will lose them.

In this vein, there are diverse interdependent ministries in the church. There is no place for independence among members of the body of Christ. Since there should be diversity of function in the body of Christ, there are different ministries/groups in the Church for the equipping of the saints.

Questions for Discussion

1. How many parts are the body made of? 1 Corinthians 12:14
2. How do the various body parts help in equipping the entire body?
3. What is the usefulness of having diverse ministries in The Church of Pentecost and how do they help advance God's work? Verse 17-19.
4. What are the effects of considering one ministry in the church as more important than another? Verses 22 and 23
5. How can ministry meeting be made more effective to equip the members?

Conclusion

Paul likened the church to the human body which has many parts. The various human parts complement the work of one another. To survive, a body must have diversity. There must also be diversity of functions in the body of Christ. God has appointed several functions in the Church for the equipping of the saints. Each function is crucial to the operation of the body of Christ.

Currently, the CoP works through the Children's Ministry, Evangelism Ministry, Women's Ministry, Pentecost Men's Ministry (PEMEM) and the Youth Ministry. Others are the ministry interventions introduced in the Vision 2023, which include the Home and Urban Missions (HUM), Chieftaincy, Schools Outreach and Ministry to Persons with

Disabilities (MPWDs). Ministry meetings should not just be activity-based but intentional towards equipping members into maturity.

Finally, we should develop the positive attitude of considering all ministries as equally important in our collective efforts to possess nations for Christ. To do otherwise is to engender the tendency to bring division among the body of Christ. We must be guided by the fact that the success or failure of one ministry impacts all others.

WEEK 20

**INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY
IN THE SQUAD**

Main Text: 2 Samuel 10:9-14

Memory Verse: *Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.* – 1 Corinthians 12:27

Introduction

The soldiers in battle do not fight for themselves but for a kingdom, and the desire is to return home in one piece. This is the driving force of the individual soldier. The army stands as one body but it is made up of individuals. Thus, apart from the collective responsibilities, the individual has roles to play. These include, readiness for battle in terms of fitness, preparedness for role play, personal development and commitment to the cause of the army.

When the battle against Israel became fierce, Joab, the commander of the army of Israel counted on the individuals who were best fit for specific tasks and assigned special roles to them. In doing this, he was performing an individual mandate himself. It takes individual responsibilities as members of a squad to achieve the overarching mission of the army of God.

Questions for Discussion

1. How did Joab select the individuals he put in battle against Syria? Verse 9
2. Who was put in charge of the unit that faced Ammon and what was his responsibility? Verses 10 and 11
3. Why were the individuals given these responsibilities? Verse 12
4. What are some responsibilities you can take up as an individual in your local Assembly?
5. What strategy will you employ in implementing your individual responsibility?

Conclusion

Taking up individual responsibilities is key in ensuring the collective victory of a squad. Joab knew this and tasked the best individuals in Israel's army to face Syria. The others were positioned under Abishai and given responsibility to fight Ammon. Joab tasked Abishai not only to do battle but also to look out for Joab's safety as he faced the other enemy. He asked Abishai to come to their aid if they encountered trouble and pledged to support Abishai's troop if they also needed help. This shows collaborative efforts even as individuals attend to their own responsibilities.

The spirit of working together shows individuals' commitment to the group instead of pursuing their selfish interests. The individuals were given specific responsibilities because in doing so they would be fighting not for themselves

but the people of God and His Kingdom. There are many individual responsibilities we can take up in our Assemblies such as, Follow-up activities, joining the Prayer Warriors, being part of Friends of Missions, Ushering and Protocol assignments, volunteering for Community Development, Adult Education facilitation, among others. We must set time to undertake the individual responsibilities, and be determined and committed to achieving them.

WEEK 21

**THE CHURCH AS AN ARMY
STANDING TOGETHER**

Main Text: 2 Samuel 11:8-17

Memory Verse: *Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfil the law of Christ.* – Galatians 6:2

Introduction

The army is always considered a single unit; it is programmed to work together as one co-ordinated body. Immediately a person is enlisted into the army, they are given partners. This is what forms the squad. The squad is made up of about ten to fifteen people. Partners are to stand arm in arm watching and protecting one another even at the peril of their lives. The army never leaves a wounded soldier to bleed in an enemy's territory. Even the dead are carried home and buried in dignity. To withdraw from a member of the army is to abandon them to the enemy. In our lesson today, we will consider the benefits of standing together as an army.

Questions for Discussion

1. How did Uriah demonstrate commitment to the army? Verse 8-11
2. What caused the death of Uriah? Verse 15-17
3. Why was Uriah left to stand alone in battle? Verse 15

4. In the church, how do some treat fellow members like the army treated Uriah?
5. Mention five (5) practical ways your assembly can stand together as an army.

Conclusion

It is said that the victory of any army is measured in its minimal casualty levels as well as defeat of the enemy. A true soldier does not only fight for their lives only but also those of their colleagues. Uriah was not happy to abandon his colleagues at the battlefield only to get himself gratified. He preferred to endure sleeping in the cold, like his colleagues, than the comfort of his room.

Unfortunately, his colleagues did not reciprocate this commitment when he needed them most. He was pushed to enemy lines and abandoned to his fate at the command of the king. He was murdered because his colleagues withdrew. Playing out David's evil intentions meant that the timeless principle of standing together as an army was discarded. Divisions, factions and lack of sincere fellowship can be likened to withdrawal from the frontline of battle where our brethren are positioned. We can demonstrate togetherness as an army when we intercede for one another, share burdens and support one another. When the Church stands together as an army, victory becomes her reward.

WEEK 22

AGENT OF TRANSFORMATION – SOW SEEDS OF CHANGE IN YOUR SPHERE

Main Text: Nehemiah 5:1-18

Memory Verse: *You are the Salt of the Earth.* – Mathew 5:13a

Introduction

Christians are not only heralds of Kingdom values but active agents in bringing these Kingdom values and principles to bear in their spheres of influence. Nehemiah became a leader at the time his people were bedevilled with so many maltreatments and injustices. They complained about debts, mortgages and bondage which overwhelmed them. The presence of Nehemiah brought freedom to the people. In like manner, Christians must see themselves as good seeds planted in every sphere of society to transform it. Today, we shall discuss Nehemiah as a model of how Christians can initiate change and bring about transformation in their domain of influence.

Questions for Discussion

1. What was the situation of the people prior to Nehemiah's arrival? Verse 1-5
2. What steps did Nehemiah take to improve the situation of the people? Verse 6-12
3. With Nehemiah as an example, discuss qualities expected of an agent of change. Verse 14-17

4. How can we initiate change in our families, churches, workplaces and nations?
5. List some kinds of seed you can sow in your sphere to aid the ‘possessing the nations’ agenda.

Conclusion

Our task, as good seeds, is to bring God’s reign to bear wherever we find ourselves. The regime of extortion prior to Nehemiah’s arrival catered for the luxury of the nobles but left the masses impoverished. The leaders observed with no concern as the poor mortgaged their lands and sold their children for subsistence and payment of taxes. However, Nehemiah started a reformation that would end the exaction of usury and extortion of property from the poor.

First, he called a meeting and appealed to the consciences of the nobles using the word of God. He then ordered the nobles to give back property they had confiscated from the poor and return what they had taken from them with interest. Significantly, Nehemiah was a good example of the change he desired to effect among the ruling class. He forfeited emoluments and exercised restraint in acquiring properties due to the circumstances of the people. The high moral standards expected of a change agent demands sacrifice of comfort, benefits, fame and sometimes friends. Change is possible when change agents are themselves examples of the change they desire to effect. Let us sow the seed of change in our spheres however small it may seem.

HOME CELL –
**ORGANISING THE ARMY OF GOD:
BEING UNDER CONTROL**

Main Text: 2 Samuel 18:1-16

Memory Verse: *For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go', and he goes; and that one, 'Come', and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this', and he does it.* – Matthew 8:9

Introduction

The military thrives on hierarchy, command and control. This requires that armies are arranged hierarchically to ensure troops know the chain of command. In our study today, we will consider the several levels of church hierarchy as it relates to the army, and the need to obey leadership and submit to their control. The army that triumphs is one that respects hierarchy, obeys commands and appreciates controls.

Questions for Discussion

1. How did David ensure a hierarchy in his army? Verse 1 and 2
2. What was the command David gave to his troops? Verse 5
3. What was the reply the soldier gave to Joab on the fate of Absalom? Verses 12 and 13
4. Why is it necessary to have structures and controls as an army?

5. State four benefits of having command and control levels in the church.

Conclusion

The army operates at various levels of strategy and tactics-Grand Strategic, Operational and Tactical levels. In the church, the grand strategic level relates to the Sovereign Godhead, who is the Head of the Church. The Operational level is the highest level of leadership which provides Vision direction, this lies with The Executive Council. The tactical levels is at the Heads who ensure practical missions are undertaken at every operational levels of the District, Assembly and Cell (Bible Study, Home Cells, ministries, etc).

David ensured hierarchy by placing captains over thousands and hundreds, and three major commanders. He issued very clear directives on sparing the life of his son, Absalom. A loyal soldier referred his immediate commander, Joab, to the command from the Strategic level and will not go contrary to the highest level of leadership.

When a church has clear hierarchy, it allows tasks to be clearly assigned, which results in operational effectiveness and large impact at various levels at the same time. Command and controls ensure that people do not do things on their own, that monitoring and evaluation take place, which make people accountable. We must note that in organising the army, the grassroot becomes the implementing agency. Failure at the District, Assembly and the cell level in particular eventually affects the entire Church (army).