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EDITORIAL

SHOULD WE SAY THAT THE TIME TO SEEK THE LORD HAS COME?

At the June, 2026 Edition of IREDE Prayer Programme, the National Evangelist, Pastor M. A. Oke, spoke on "The Time To Seek The Lord" (**Hosea 10:12**) and said, "It is imperative for individuals, families and nations to always seek the Lord for their safety, security and eternal salvation". The reality of Christian faith nowadays is that a lot of people particularly Christians are merely serving the Lord without seeking Him.

SERVING AND SEEKING GOD ARE NOT THE SAME

The idea of serving the Lord is different from that of seeking Him.

To serve the Lord is an act of fulfilling one's responsibilities, such as attending Church services and participating in all their programmes or activities, while on the other hand, to seek the Lord means the act of building relationship with Him through personal communication

Do you have a personal relationship with God today? or should we ask whether you always communicate with Him?

In the scripture, **2 Chronicles 20:12** where Jehoshaphat said, "O our God, will thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee." This is communicating with the Lord.

Seeking the Lord has many benefits attached to it
Those who faithfully seek the Lord enjoy some of these benefits among others. The highlight of the benefits are



as follows:

- The advantage of being taught to fear God (**Psalms 34:11**)
- The advantage of having access to the secret of the Lord (**Psalms 25:14; Judges 13:18**)
- The advantage of being given the power to liberate oneself (**Colossians 1:13**)

Others include:

The advantage of being in agreement with the heavenly Mandate to live for God (**Acts 28; Acts 26:19**) as well as the advantage of being able to rock in the Lord

ARE YOU SEEKING THE LORD TODAY?

The question is "Are you truly seeking the Lord today?"

THE NEED TO SEEK THE LORD

Psalms 9:17 says "the wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God."

The above reference refers to the people and nations that refuse to seek the Lord. Can you vouch for your own nation today? Is your own nation seeking the Lord today?

Cont'd on back page

INSIDE

LAST WORDS OF THE
GREAT COMMENTATOR,
MATTHEW HENRY

A DYING
MAN'S REGRET

THE TIME TO SEEK
THE LORD

TESTIMONY



TIME TO SEEK THE LORD



Pastor M. A. Oke
National Evangelist, TACN

Text: Hosea 10:12

Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.

A. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SERVING AND SEEKING THE LORD

There is a difference between serving the Lord and seeking the Lord:

- **Serving the Lord** is the act of fulfilling your responsibility to God through commitment and dedication.
 - **Deut 10:12** And now, Israel, what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul.
- **Seeking the Lord** is the act of building a strong relationship with God through regular personal communication with Him.
 - **2 Chr 20:3** And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah.

B. THE FIVE UNIQUE ADVANTAGES IN SEEKING THE LORD

- **You will be taught how to fear God.**
 - Seeking God simply means the

act of searching for Him. When you start the relationship with God, the first thing He will teach you is how to fear Him. This means God will begin to teach you the prerequisites, such as holiness and godly living, needed to relate to God.

- **Psalm 34:11** Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

■ **The secrets of God will be revealed to you.**

- The Bible says in **Psalm 25:14**; “The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him...” When you begin to know the secrets of the Lord, you become the ruler of your life. You cannot get the secrets of the Lord when you are always in public. **The secrets of the Lord are in the secret; therefore, if you desire to get His secrets, go into the secret.** When you begin to seek the Lord through a mutual relationship, He will reveal His secrets to you.
- **Judges 13:18** And the angel of the LORD said unto him,

Why askest thou thus after my name, seeing it is secret?

■ **The Power to liberate yourself will be given to you.**

- When you begin to seek God through a mutual relationship, He will empower you as slaves to liberate yourself from slavery, like Moses. The story of Moses always reminds me of the necessity of seeking God and not just serving Him.
- The story of Moses can be summarised in five powerful sentences
 - i. He was born a slave, and by a slave mother.
 - ii. Pharaoh violated his decree by nurturing Moses in his house.
 - This means there could be other officers in Egypt who harboured male children in their houses, too.
 - iii. Moses lived among idols, but he sought after the living God.
 - iv. God empowered Moses to fight his Guardian, the enslaver.
 - v. Moses became lord over Pharaoh because of his deliverance, as he sought God.
- When you begin to seek God, He will empower you to set yourself free from the forces of darkness and the power of sin.
- **Col 1:13** Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

■ **You will agree with the heavenly mandate to live your life for God.**

- A lot of Christians are unable to enjoy God because they have not yet agreed with the mandate to live their lives for

God. A man who keeps his money in a bank still needs to meet a mandate for a withdrawal. When Paul met God, he agreed to the mandate. That's why he said:

- **Acts 26:19** Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:

■ **You will be rocked in God – you become the unshakable.**

- There are three categories of people in the church:
 - i. Those who are like logs – they can easily be cut down.
 - ii. Those who are like a tree – they can easily be rooted out.
 - iii. Those who are like a rock – they cannot be overturned by various forces.
- **Psalms 27:10** When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up.

C. **THE ONE MAJOR WAY TO SEEK GOD**

■ **Begin to set aside days (three days) to be alone with God, praying and studying the Word of God.**

- Stay away from all distractions
- Be doing this periodically
- The more you begin to grow in God, the more you increase the days of staying alone with Him.

■ **APPLICATION:**

- If you want to enjoy God in fullness, create time to seek God, and not just render service to Him. Rendering a service to Him only is not enough to be deep in God; you have to press further to seek Him.
- God bless you!
- **R.H 73**

LAST WORDS OF THE GREAT COMMENTATOR, MATTHEW HENRY

Matthew Henry, a distinguished non-conformist divine and biblical commentator; born October 28, 1662, at Broad Oak, Flintshire, England; died June 22, 1714, at Nantwich, England. He received his education under his father's (Rev. Philip Henry) roof, and in an academy at Islington.

On the return journey from a visit to Chester he was seized with apoplexy and died. His old intimate friend, Mr. Illidge, was present, who had been desired by Sir Thomas Delves and his lady to invite him to their house, at Doddington, whither their steward was sent to conduct him.

But he was not able to precede any further, and went to bed at Mr. Mottershed's house, where he felt himself so ill that he said to his friends, **"Pray for me, for now I cannot pray for myself."** While they were putting him to bed, he spoke of the excellence of spiritual



Matthew Henry, 1662 - 1714

comforts in a time of affliction, and blessed God that he enjoyed them.

To his friend, Mr. Illidge, he addressed himself in these memorable words: **"You have been used to take notice of the sayings of dying men – this is mine: That a life spent in the service of God, and communion with Him, is the most comfortable and pleasant life that one can live in the present world."** He had a restless night, and about five o'clock on Tuesday morning he was seized with a fit, which his medical attendants agreed to be an apoplexy.

He lay speechless, with his eyes fixed, till about eight o'clock, June 22, 1714, and then expired.
(From Memoir of the Rev. Matthew Henry).

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TESTIMONIES OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

"They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony" - Rev. 12:11

1. God Blessed the Work of My Son's Hands

I thank God for blessing my son's handiwork. I had vowed to ask God for a good job for him, but God blessed the trade he learned. I have redeemed my vow by sending N100,000 to the Irede account for God's work. I pray his handiwork continues to be blessed. Brethren, shout seven hallelujahs to the Lord! Amen.

2. God Delivered My Brother and Took away our Shame.

To the glory of God who alone deserves praise: He did not allow my family to be put to shame, by not allowing my brother to be jailed. The missing boy has been found and my brother was freed. Praise God!

3. God Turned fear of Deportation into Job and Visa Renewal

I return all glory to God for His faithfulness. When our visa was about to expire and we were faced with the risk of deportation, God stepped in. One month before expiry, He blessed me with a job and our visa renewal was successful. God turned our worries into joy. To Him alone be glory. Amen.

4. Bigger Testimony: Whole Family's UK Visa Approved

I'm back with a bigger testimony! Last month I testified about borrowing from GTB for the building project. Baba said I would return with more testimonies — I claimed it. My husband got a UK job offer; his visa was approved last week. As we prepared for Irede this evening, our dependent visas were approved too. All expenses paid by the company. PRAISE

THE LORD!

5. God Enabled Us to Pay Our Irede Building Project Pledge

I appreciate God for enabling me and my husband to pay our Irede Building Project pledge last month. We had no hope when we picked the forms, but in the second week God surprised us. Praise the Lord!

6. Seed of N100,000 Yielded N950,000

I bless the God of Irede who answers prayers. Last month Daddy Oke called for donors. By faith I picked a card and sowed N100,000. The God of Irede surprised me with N950,000. I bless Yahweh!

7. Healed from Fibroids and Severe Menstrual Pain

For years I suffered severe menstrual pain from fibroids with heavy bleeding. I dreaded my cycle but kept trusting God and praying at every Irede program. Two months ago, my period came without pain and bleeding was normal. This month, slight pain disappeared when I declared God's Word. Today I testify: No more fibroids! God turned my fear to joy.

8. Successful Completion of NYSC

I'm Marvelous, and I give God the glory for completing NYSC successfully. Though I had difficulties getting my certificate, God took control and I received it. Glory be to God Almighty!

9. N50,000 Seed Brought Over N500,000 in Free Income

The God of Irede showed me mercy through provision. Last month we picked cards for God's work. I chose ₦50,000 by faith though I had no means to

pay. God blessed me with over ₦500,000 in May as free income from that ₦50,000 seed. Hallelujah!

10. Urinary Blockage Cleared by Anointed Handkerchief

One night I could not pass urine for hours and fell on the floor in pain. I told my children to sing praises, then remembered Baba Oke prayed over our handkerchiefs in March. I rubbed myself with it and immediately began passing urine freely like tap water.

11. Safe Return from Father's Burial

I fulfill my vow to God today. After traveling for my father's burial and returning in peace, I have come to the Irede ground to give thanks to God.

12. God Upgraded My Job with 3x Salary

I thank the God of Irede for changing my work and connecting me. He gave me a job with 3 times my former salary. Only He can do this!

13. God Cleared Airport Obstacles for Travel

God Almighty answered my prayers and made my travel out of Nigeria possible. Despite obstacles at the airport, the God of IREDE cleared every hindrance. Congregation, shout seven hallelujahs!

14. Unexpected Car Gift and Birthday Blessing

During May Irede, Daddy said those who had never testified would testify this month. On May 12th my boss gifted me a car unexpectedly. Today, 5th June, God added another year to me. Glory and adoration to His name!

15. Safe Delivery Without Surgery

My daughter-in-law put to bed without surgery last month. God saw her through safely. Praise the Lord!

16. God Cleared My Child from False Implication



A minister once said to a dying man, **"If God should restore you to health, think you that you would alter your course of life?"** He answered: **"I call heaven and earth to witness, I would labour for holiness as I shall soon labour for life. As for riches and pleasure and the applause of men, I account them as dross. Oh! If the righteous Judge would but relieve and spare me a little longer, in what spirit would I spend the remainder of my days! I would know no other business, aim at no other end, than perfecting myself in holiness. Whatever contributed to that – every means of grace, every opportunity of spiritual improvement, should be dearer to me than thousands of gold and**

A DYING MAN'S REGRETS

silver. But, alas! Why do I amuse myself with fond imaginations? The best resolutions are now insignificant, because they are too late."

Such was the language of deep concern uttered by one who was beginning to look at these things in the light of the eternal world, which, after all, is the true light. Here we stand on the little molehills of sublunary life, where we cannot get a clear view of that other world; but, oh! what must it be to stand on the top of the dark mountain of death, and take an outlook upon our surroundings,



knowing that from the top of that mountain, if angel pinions do not lift us to the skies, we must take a leap into the blackness of darkness!

Reader, when your soul shall pass into eternity, is it an angel or a fiend that shall greet you on your entrance there? If you want a well-grounded hope of heaven, live for it! Live for it!

(Culled from the Manna).

◀◀ Testimonies Cont'd

God did not allow my child to be implicated last month. He fought for us and brought us out without shame. Glory to God!

17. Diabolic Snail and Tortoise Removed from My Body

I thank God for what He did for me. When Baba took the microphone and said, there somebody here, something used to make sounds in your body and you felt as though something was moving inside of you. God also removed the *diabolical* snail from my body after Pastor M. A. Oke's revelation and prayer during the Irede May edition. A "*diabolical tortoise*" was also removed from my body after prayer at the Irede program. God is alive!

18. Arrow of Affliction Disappeared by God's Power

Last month at Irede I experienced a miracle. I was not around in December, but when Pastor M. A. Oke ministered last month, the arrow in my body disappeared. The God of Glorious Vision is alive!

19. God Prevented Gas Explosion in My House

I thank the God of Irede who heals and protects. I thank God that I did the Irede project. When the Spirit said I should pay

the money, I obeyed. Getting home, my child had put food on the cooker and went to work. I thank God that the cooker did not explode and burn the house. God did not allow the gas to explode. If it had happened, I would not be alive to be at this month's Irede. Praise God!

20. God Answered 2 of My 7 Prayer Requests

I appreciate God that at the Ikorodu crusade, Pastor Oke asked us to write seven things we wanted. God answered two of the prayer items. God is faithful!

21. God Changed My Job and Healed My Legs

My husband and children did not weep over me. I testify that God changed my job. God has miraculously healed my two legs. Glory be to His name!

22. Healed from Leg Pains by Prophetic Prayer

My two legs had been painning me for a long time. But when Pastor Oke said, "Everything walking in your body should go out," that thing disappeared from my body. It did not kill me, and truly I was healed. Thank You, Jesus!

23. Daughter's Success and Family Moved to Own House

In February, my daughter succeeded in her

nursery school. She was able to complete their abandoned long-term project. We are now residing in our own house instead of being tenants. God has lifted us!

24. Delivered from Financial Wastefulness

God delivered me from being financially wasteful. He gave me wisdom and discipline to manage resources. To Him be the glory!

25. God Protected Me from Death and Police Arrest

Thank God for protecting me. God added a year to my age. A student died in the school I am working from a particular disease, but God delivered me. God also delivered me from being arrested by the police. Great is His faithfulness!

26. Delivered from Lifelong Powers of Darkness

God shed light by bringing me out of darkness. God made me to overcome the power of darkness that had been seriously troubling me since childhood. Jesus broke every chain!

27. Yoruba Teacher Saved from Fire Disaster

God saved a Yoruba teacher from a fire disaster. He intervened and prevented destruction. Only God can do this!

Cont'd from front cover

Thus, like Pharaoh of the Old Testament Bible, who claimed that he did not know the Lord God of Israel (**Exodus 5:2**), a lot of individuals, families and nations today do not know God because they are not willing to seek Him (**Romans 3:11**).

Beloved, this same God is the very One who has given you the power to make wealth according to **Deuteronomy 8:18** and also taught you the way to make profit (**Isaiah 48:17**).

IS BEING RELIGIOUS SEEKING THE LORD?

To be a very religious person is an act that is very common in African tradition. In the same vein, many Church-goers today are too religious but are not seeking the Lord at all. Such worshippers can fast, pray, worship, dress and offer their possessions as sacrifices with a view to obtaining something from God but they are not seeking God. Based on **Psalms 16:11**, whoever is not seeking God or standing in His presence cannot benefit from the fullness of joy made available in His presence (**Psalms 16:11**). Are you in the presence of the Lord?

Thus, in consonance with the, to diligently seek the Lord is very rewarding (**Hebrews 11:6**), but it is very needful to seek Him at the right time while He may be found and to call upon Him while He is still near (**Isaiah 55:6**).

Thus, the main goal of the message in the June 2026 Edition is to urge you to always seek the Lord.

EMULATE MOSES

In the days of Moses, he told the people of Israel that they would find the Lord their God if they sought Him with all their heart and soul (**Deuteronomy 4:29**) Being one of today's spiritual Israel, are you ready to seek the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and spirit? The significance of Moses' charges is that one should always seek the Lord at the right time and with one's whole heart and soul in one's own interest since there is time for everything (**Ecclesiastes 3:1-8**).

Our beloved readers, you are to seek the Lord above all other things, let us also take a prompt action.

Again, let us recall how David, the second king of Israel charged his son,

Solomon, to seek the Lord always so that he might not be cast off from Him forever (**1 Chronicles 28:9**). Can you also charge your children to seek the Lord always?

As believers in Christ, it is your responsibility to seek the Lord always and to utilize your attendance of IREDE Prayer Programme to your greatest advantage.

Thus, may you not miss the blessings associated with seeking the Lord at the right time in Jesus name. Amen!
God bless you!



Pastor Daniel Asa
Editor-in-Chief

The financial responsibility of Irede Prayer Programme is increasing by the day. Your generous donation towards this programme will go a long way to make the programme a success. Remember God loves a cheerful giver and He will reward you bountifully.

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