**Aflame Sunday Celebration Message – 06 October 2024**

**Minister : Elder Benny Suwarno**

**Theme : Faithful and Wise Stewards to Bear Lasting Fruits**

**The LORD has Saved us & Purposefully Planted us in HIS Body to Bear much Lasting Fruits.**

**John 15: 16 (AMP)**

“You have Not chosen ME, but I have Chosen you and I have Appointed and Placed and

Purposefully Planted you, so that you would Go and Bear Fruit and Keep On Bearing, and that

your fruit will Remain and be Lasting, so that Whatever you ask of the FATHER in MY NAME

[as MY Representative] HE may Give to you.”

**The LORD is searching for Men and Women whose hearts are Fully Committed and**

**Loyal to HIM, Faithful to HIS Calling and to HIS Purpose**.

**2 Chronicles 16: 9a**

For the Eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show HIMSelf Strong

on behalf of those whose Heart is Loyal to HIM.

**JESUS spoke of Loyalty in HIS Sermon on the Mount ~**

**Matthew 6: 24**

“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else

he will be **Loyal** to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve GOD and mammon.

**Verse 24b (AMP)** – You cannot serve GOD and Mammon (money, possessions, fame, status, or whatever is valued more than the LORD).

**In Greek “Pistos” = Faithful, Devoted, True, Trustworthy.**

**Luke 12: 42 – 44 (AMP)**

The LORD said, “Who then is the **Faithful and Wise Steward** [of the estate], whom his master will put in charge over his household, to give his servants their portion of food at the proper time? Blessed (happy, prosperous, to be admired) is that servant whom his master finds so doing when he arrives. I assure you and most solemnly say to you, he will put him in charge of all his possessions.

**Faithfulness is a Characteristic of GOD and it is an Essential Characteristic that**

**GOD wants HIS People to have.**

**1 Corinthians 4: 2 (AMP)**

In this case, moreover, it is required [as essential and demanded] of stewards that one be found **Faithful and Trustworthy.**

**Essential = Absolutely necessary, extremely important.**

**Proverbs 20: 6**

Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, but who can find a Faithful man?

**2 Timothy 2: 2**

And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to

**Faithful men** who will be able to teach others also.

**Faithful Men and Women are Set Apart for GOD, Entrusted and Faithful to the**

**Heavenly Calling to Bear Fruits. Faithfulness is essential and leads to Fruitfulness.**

**Parable in Matthew 25: 14 – 30 (5, 2 and 1 talent servants’ Attitudes).**

**~ The Attitude of the 5 Talent servant and the 2 talent servant, and the Master’s Response.**

**Matthew 25: 20, 22 (AMP)**

And the one who had received the five talents came and brought Him five more, saying,

‘Master, you **entrusted** to me five talents. See, I have [made a profit and] gained five more talents.’

“Also the one who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you **entrusted** two talents to me. See, I have [made a profit and] gained two more talents.’

**Matthew 25: 21 (AMP)**

His Master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been **Faithful and**

**Trustworthy** over a little, I will put you in charge of many things; share in the Joy of your Master.’

**~ The Attitude of the 1 talent servant and the Master’s response.**

**Matthew 25: 24 – 25 (AMP)**

“The one who had received one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a harsh and demanding man, reaping [the harvest] where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter seed. So I was afraid [to lose the talent], and I went and hid your talent in

the ground. See, you have what is your own.’

**Matthew 25: 26 – 28 (AMP)**

“But his Master answered him, ‘You wicked, lazy servant, you knew that I reap [the harvest]

where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter seed. Then you ought to have

put my money with the bankers, and at my return I would have received my money back with interest. So take the talent away from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.’

**What are the Causes of Unfruitfulness/ Barrenness :**

**~ Wrong Attitude: Prideful, Indifferent, Laziness, Fearful.**

**~ Thorny heart: Crowded with Worries and Cares of this life, Deceitfulness of riches,**

 **Wrong desire.**

**Mark 4: 18 – 19 (AMP)**

And others are the ones on whom seed was sown among the thorns; these are the ones who have heard the Word, but the worries and cares of the world [the distractions of this age with its worldly pleasures], and the deceitfulness [and the false security or glamour] of wealth [or fame],

and the passionate desires for all the other things creep in and choke out the word, and

it becomes unfruitful.

**Matthew 25: 29 – 30 (AMP)**

“For to everyone who has [and values his Blessings and Gifts from GOD, and has used them wisely], more will be given, and [he will be richly supplied so that] he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have [because he has ignored or disregarded his Blessings and Gifts from GOD], even what he does have will be taken away.

And throw out the worthless servant into the outer darkness; in that place [of grief and torment]

there will be weeping [over sorrow and pain] and grinding of teeth [over distress and anger].

**~ Time/ Talent/ Job/ Finance/ Health & Strength/ Resources entrusted to us from GOD are**

 **all for HIS Purpose.**

**Example - King David**

**1 Chronicles 29: 13 – 17 (NLT)**

“O our GOD, we thank YOU and praise YOUR Glorious Name!But who am I, and who are

my people, that we could give anything to YOU? Everything we have has come from YOU, and

we give YOU only what YOU first gave us! We are here for only a moment, visitors and strangers in the land as our ancestors were before us. Our days on earth are like a passing shadow,

gone so soon without a trace.“O LORD our GOD, even this material we have gathered to build a Temple to honor YOUR Holy Name comes from you! It all belongs to you!

I know, my GOD, that YOU examine our hearts and rejoice when YOU find integrity there.

YOU know I have done all this with good motives, and I have watched YOUR people offer their gifts willingly and joyously.

**Hebrews 3: 1 – 2 (AMPC)**

So then, brethren, consecrated and set apart for GOD, who share in the Heavenly Calling, [thoughtfully and attentively] consider JESUS, the Apostle and High Priest Whom we confessed [as ours when we embraced the Christian faith].

[See how] Faithful He was to HIM Who appointed Him [Apostle and High Priest], as Moses was also Faithful in the whole House [of GOD].

**Numbers 12: 6 – 8 (AMP)**

And HE said, “Hear now MY Words:
If there is a prophet among you, I the LORD will make Myself known to him in a Vision
And I will speak to him in a dream.But it is not so with MY servant Moses;
He is **Entrusted and Faithful** in all MY House.
With him I speak mouth to mouth [directly], Clearly and Openly and not in riddles;

And he beholds the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against

MY servant Moses?”

**The LORD will Protect and Preserve HIS Faithful ones**

**Psalm 31: 23 (AMP)**

O love the LORD, all you HIS Godly ones!
The LORD preserves **the Faithful** [those with moral and spiritual integrity]
And fully repays the [self-righteousness of the] arrogant.

**1 Samuel 2: 9 (NLT)**

He will protect His Faithful ones, but the wicked will disappear in darkness.
No one will succeed by strength alone.

**The LORD will hear the prayers of the Faithful who serve HIM single mindedly.**

**King Hezekiah was deadly ill and about to die…**

**2 Kings 20: 2 – 5**

When Hezekiah heard this, he turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD,

“Remember, O LORD, how I have always been faithful to YOU and have served YOU

single-mindedly, always doing what pleases YOU.” Then he broke down and wept bitterly.

But before Isaiah had left the middle courtyard, this message came to him from the LORD:

“Go back to Hezekiah, the leader of MY people. Tell him, ‘This is what the LORD, the GOD of your ancestor David, says: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears. I will heal you, and three days from now you will get out of bed and go to the Temple of the LORD.”

**Faithfulness starts from giving the Best in Every little thing, nothing is too small.**

**Luke 16: 10 – 12 (AMP)**

He who is faithful in a very little thing is also faithful in much; and he who is dishonest in a

very little thing is also dishonest in much. Therefore if you have not been faithful in the use of earthly wealth, who will entrust the true riches to you?

And if you have not been faithful in the use of that [earthly wealth] which belongs to another

[whether GOD or man, and of which you are a trustee], who will give you that which is your own?

**To be Faithful and WISE Stewards in these Last days to Bear Lasting Fruits:**

**Proverbs 30: 24 – 28**

There are four things which are little on the earth,
But they are **exceedingly wise**:
The ants are a people not strong, Yet they prepare their food in the summer;
The rock badgers are a feeble folk, Yet they make their homes in the crags;
The locusts have no king, Yet they all advance in ranks;
The spider skillfully grasps with its hands, And it is in kings’ palaces.

**~ What can we learn from the Ants:**

**To know the time and season we are living in, to be Awaken and Not to be lazy, asleep**

**and slumbering.**

**Proverbs 6: 6 – 11 (NLT)**

Take a lesson from the ants, you lazybones. Learn from their ways and become wise!
Though they have no prince or governor or ruler to make them work,they labor hard all summer, gathering food for the winter.

But you, lazybones, how long will you sleep? When will you wake up?
A little extra sleep, a little more slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—
then poverty will pounce on you like a bandit; scarcity will attack you like an armed robber.

**John 9: 4**

I must work the works of HIM Who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.

**Ephesians 5: 15 – 17 (AMP)**

Therefore see that you walk carefully [living life with honor, purpose, and courage;

shunning those who tolerate and enable evil], not as the unwise, but as wise [sensible,

intelligent, discerning people], making the very most of your time [on earth, recognizing and

taking advantage of each opportunity and using it with wisdom and diligence], because

the days are [filled with] evil. Therefore do not be foolish and thoughtless, but understand and firmly grasp what the Will of the LORD is.

**~ What can we learn from the Rock Badgers:**

**We are to be Watchful, to Love, to Treasure and to walk in the Truth.**

**Matthew 7: 24 (AMP)**

“So everyone who hears these Words of Mine and acts on them, will be like a wise man

[a far-sighted, practical, and sensible man] who built his house on the rock.”

**Apostle Paul warned and charged Timothy to be Watchful and to be Faithful.**

**2 Timothy 3: 10, 14 – 15 (NLT)**

But you, Timothy, certainly know what I teach, and how I live, and what my purpose in life is.

You know my faith, my patience, my love, and my endurance.

But **you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught**. You know they are true,

for you know you can trust those who taught you. You have been taught the Holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in CHRIST JESUS.

**~ What can we learn from the Locusts:**

“They have no king, but they march in formation/ advance in ranks”

**Aflame Core Value #6 – Active United Teamwork**

We believe as united team members who are strengthened by the love for each other,

we are to be active participants in the building of GOD’s HOUSE.

**Aflame Core Value #10 – Harvest Laborers Co-Working Together**

We believe that we are all laborers co-working together in the communities, to lead the lost into GOD’s KINGDOM, as GOD desires to grant salvation to all.

**Ephesians 4: 16 (NLT)**

HE makes the whole Body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work,

it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

**Making every effort to Guard and Keep the Unity by Valuing one another and**

**Working Together Harmoniously.**

**Ephesians 4: 3 (AMP)**

Make every effort to keep the Oneness of the SPIRIT in the Bond of Peace (each individual working together to make the whole successful).

 **~ What can we learn from the Spider:**

**Aflame Core Value #4 – Spirit of Excellence**

We believe in giving GOD our best by being HIS excellent workmanship through

every good work, ministry and service in our marketplace, characterized by our excellent attitude & motivation.

**Colossians 3: 23 – 24 (AMP)**

Whatever you do (whatever your task maybe) work from your soul (that is, put in your best effort) as (something done) for the LORD and not for men, knowing (with all certainty) that is from the LORD (not from men) that you will receive the inheritance which is your (greatest) reward.

It is the LORD CHRIST whom you (actually) serve.