



THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD CHRIST THE LORD PARISH
1 - 5 ADMIRALTY ROAD, LEKKI PHASE 1, LAGOS
DIGGING DEEP

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15TH, 2026

TOPIC: WHEN GOD PROMOTES

KEY TEXT: PSALM 75:6-7

SUPPORTING TEXTS: GENESIS 41: 37-44, 1 SAMUEL 16: 6-13, DANIEL 2: 46-49

Memory Verse: "For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: He putteth down one, and setteth up another" – Psalm 75: 6-7

INTRODUCTION

Last week, we established that God is the sovereign source of all true promotion, using appointed timing, preparation, and testing to build the character required to sustain elevation (Ps. 75:6-7; 1 Sam. 2:7-8; Prov 22:29, Daniel 1:8). Today, we examine our practical responsibility in the journey: exercising stewardship and excellence in our current assignment, responding righteously to workplace and personal opposition, and actively positioning our hearts for God's lift.

OUTLINE 1: OUR PART IN PROMOTION

- Faithfulness in the Small: Diligence in mundane, unglamorous duties and faithful stewardship of others' resources serve as the audition for greater trust (Luke 16:10-12; Matt. 25:21).
- Excellence and Diligence: Trusting God never excuses passivity or mediocrity. Believers must cultivate an excellent spirit by mastering skills, solving real problems, and modeling professional integrity (Prov. 22:29; Dan. 6:3; Col. 3:23-24).
- Commitment to Continuous Growth and Teachable Spirit: Stewarding current responsibilities requires being receptive to correction, seeking wisdom, and refining skills rather than becoming complacent or unteachable (Prov. 9:9; Prov. 19:20).
- Servant-Hearted Submission to Authority: True preparation involves honoring existing leaders and working to make others succeed, recognizing that leadership is rooted in service rather than self-promotion (Mark 10:42-45; Col. 3:22-24).

Discuss: Who or what purpose is connected to your present position, and what should Promotion change in your service to others?

OUTLINE 2: NAVIGATING OPPOSITION

- Opposition as a Catalyst: Resistance does not mean you missed God; He often uses adversity and unfair treatment to position and refine you for your assignment (Gen. 50:20; Rom. 8:28).
- Guarding the Heart: Bitterness, envy, and rivalry disqualify you emotionally from the platform God is preparing. Forgive freely, maintain godly boundaries, and refuse compromise (Proverbs 4:23, Ephesians 4:31-32).
- Refusing Carnal Retaliation and Shortcuts: When attacked, bypassed, or sabotaged, resist taking matters into your own hands; leave vindication and justice to God, just as David refused to strike Saul (1 Sam. 24:10-12; Rom. 12:17-19).
- Overcoming Evil with Kingdom Good: Rather than withholding value or withdrawing into passive-aggressive silence, respond to hostility by consistently demonstrating Christlike character and blessing those who oppose you (Matt. 5:44; Rom. 12:20-21).

Discuss: How should a believer respond when overlooked or opposed by colleagues while faithfully doing their work?

OUTLINE 3: THE READINESS CHECKLIST

1. Deepen personal fellowship with God through prayer and discernment- Jeremiah 33:3, Philippians 1:9-10
2. Hone professional competence and practical problem-solving skills- Proverbs 22:29, Exodus 31:3-5
3. Guard private and public integrity consistently- Proverbs 11:3, Titus 2:7-8
4. Remain faithful and diligent in small, unseen assignments - Luke 16:10, Matthew 25:21
5. Treat everyone with honour, regardless of rank or status - Romans 12:10, James 2:1-4
6. Eliminate bitterness, envy, manipulation, and rivalry - Hebrews 12:15, James 3:14-16

7. Steward finances, influence, and confidential matters prudently - Proverbs 11:13, 1 Corinthians 4:2
8. Welcome constructive correction and feedback - Proverbs 15:31–32, Proverbs 27:6
9. Test every open door against Scripture and divine purpose - 1 John 4:1, Acts 17:11
10. Stay humble, accountable, and service-minded upon arrival - 1 Peter 5:5–6, Mark 10:43

WARNING: NOT EVERY ELEVATION IS GOD’S PROMOTION

Advancement is a trap if it demands moral compromise, injustice, manipulation, or trading spiritual health for status. God never requires disobedience as the currency for true promotion.

BIBLE CASE STUDIES

CHARACTER	PREPARATION / TEST	PROMOTION	DIVINE PURPOSE
Joseph	Betrayal, false accusation, prison	Prime Minister of Egypt	Preservation of lives
David	Obscurity, isolation, warfare	King of Israel	Shepherding God’s people
Daniel	Exile and tests of conviction	Chief Administrator	Godly influence in a pagan nation
Mordecai	Faithfulness without recognition	Second to the king	Protection and welfare of his people

CONCLUSION

Promotion is not an excuse for passivity; it requires active stewardship, uncompromising excellence, and a guarded heart. When you handle small responsibilities faithfully and overcome opposition without bitterness, you demonstrate the spiritual readiness God requires to elevate you.

FINAL DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In what practical ways can believers display an "excellent spirit" in their work or ministry without falling into selfish ambition?
2. Why is emotional freedom from bitterness essential before God entrusts someone with greater influence?
3. Which item on the Readiness Checklist represents your greatest growth area right now?

PRAYER POINTS

1. Faithfulness & Stewardship: Lord, grant me the grace to remain diligent and reliable in small, unseen responsibilities; let my current assignment be an audition for greater trust (Luke 16:10).
2. Excellence & Value: Father, endow me with an excellent spirit, wisdom, and professional competence to solve problems and add meaningful value in my field (Dan. 6:3).
3. Victory over Bitterness: Deliver my heart from envy, rivalry, and resentment; help me forgive those who oppose me and trust You to vindicate me (Rom. 8:28).
4. Discernment & Integrity: Close every door that requires compromise or disobedience and keep my heart pure as You prepare me for promotion.