



CHURCH OF CHRIST

Plot 310 Kado, EFAB Estate Road, After Polaris Bank Ltd.
By Life-Camp Junction, Gwarinpa, P.O.Box 3807, Garki, Abuja.

E-mail: cockaddo@yahoo.com

Website: www.churchofchristkado.org

Annual Theme: GODLY LIVING IN PERILOUS TIMES - Titus 2:11; 2 Tim. 3:1.

WEEKLY BULLETIN

VOLUME 21 ISSUE 12
21/03/2021 - 27/03/2021

ELDERS

O. A. Gbeleyi
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S. E. Ekanem
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Welcome

We are pleased to welcome you to the CHURCH OF CHRIST, Kado, Abuja where we worship God in spirit and in truth.

You are assured of a spiritual worship based on the Word of God, apostolic examples and the practices of the early Church.

May you be richly blessed as you experience our fellowship today, while we look forward to your regular presence and membership in the Church of Christ.

The Church of Christ is one body, universal in establishment, with local congregations across the world.

Basic Teachings

The Church of Christ teaches God's plan for eternal salvation of man as revealed in the following Scriptures:

- Hearing the Word of God (1 Cor. 1:21; Rom. 10:14, 17)
- Believing and having obedient faith in the Gospel of Christ (Heb. 11:6)
- Repentance based on the conviction of the Word of God (Lk. 24:47)
- Confession of Christ as the Son of the living God (Acts 2:38; 8:37)
- Water baptism for the washing away of our sins as in the symbolic death, burial and resurrection of Christ, and for admission into His Body, the Church (Acts 2: 38; Rom. 6: 3-5)
- Faithfulness and continuous obedience to the Word of God, as the only assurance for eternal salvation. (Heb. 5:8, 9; Rev. 2:10)

*Greet one another with a holy kiss. The Churches of Christ greet you.
Rom 16:16.*

WORSHIP PROGRAMME (21st March 2021)

| Item/Activity | 1ST SESSION | 2ND SESSION |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Moderator | Aburime Ehimare <i>[Deac.]</i> | Shegun Bamidele |
| Song Leader | Ayo Akande | Edet O. Edet |
| Opening Song | | |
| Opening Prayer | Abasiamia Daniel | Emmanuel Efre |
| Teaching | Emma. Ugwumba <i>[Deac.]</i> | Emma.I Ugwumba <i>[Deac.]</i> |
| Praise Worship | Ayo Akande | Edet O. Edet |
| Prayer Session | O. A. Gbeleyi <i>[Elder]</i> | O. A. Gbeleyi <i>[Elder]</i> |
| Sermon | Samuel Ejeh <i>[Deac.]</i> | Samuel Ejeh <i>[Deac.]</i> |
| Baptismal Call | Aburime Ehimare <i>[Deac.]</i> | Shegun Bamidele |
| Lord's Supper | Emma. Aladeokomo | Chuks Onuoha |
| Collection | Emma. Aladeokomo | Chuks Onuoha |
| Announcement | Franklyn Ejeh | Franklyn Ejeh |
| Closing Song | | |
| Closing Prayer | S. E. Ekanem <i>[Elder]</i> | D. N. Onuoha <i>[Elder]</i> |

NEXT WEEK WORSHIP PROGRAMME (28th March 2021)

| Item/Activity | 1ST SESSION | 2ND SESSION |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Moderator | Williams Kareem <i>[Deac.]</i> | Charles Akataobi |
| Song Leader | Ita Ukorebi | Ndifreke Edet |
| Opening Song | | |
| Opening Prayer | Eloma Eloma | Unwana Ekpo |
| Teaching | Daniel Ebong <i>[Snr.]</i> | Daniel Ebong <i>[Snr.]</i> |
| Praise Worship | Ita Ukorebi | Ndifreke Edet |
| Prayer Session | O. A. Gbeleyi <i>[Elder]</i> | O. A. Gbeleyi <i>[Elder]</i> |
| Sermon | D. N. Onuoha <i>[Elder]</i> | D. N. Onuoha <i>[Elder]</i> |
| Baptismal Call | Williams Kareem <i>[Deac.]</i> | Charles Akataobi |
| Lord's Supper | Sunday John | Akin Akande |
| Collection | Sunday John | Akin Akande |
| Announcement | Anthony Ehimare | Anthony Ehimare |
| Closing Song | | |
| Closing Prayer | A. E. Adegoroye <i>[Min]</i> | Umanah Ezekiel <i>[Deac.]</i> |

EXPOSING THE SIGNS OF PERILOUS TIMES- “UNLOVING, UNFORGIVING ...”

Text: 2 Timothy 3:3; 1 John 4:20

“For men will be ... unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,” (2Tim 3:3 NKJV)

“If someone says, “I love God”, and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?” .(1John 4:20).

INTRODUCTION.

Scripture tells us that God is love. *“He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.”* (1John 4:8). We are also taught in Matthew 22:37-39 that *“Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.”* By this, Jesus has declared universally that loving God and fellow human beings are the greatest commandments. In a similar vein, the greatest gift God gave to mankind is the act of forgiveness. Our Lord and Saviour came and died for this singular purpose, to redeem mankind.

Now, where these two are lacking, and the opposite practiced, all conceivable evil is the outcome and it abounds. It goes without saying therefore, that the root cause of almost all vices in our world stems from “unloving attitude and unforgiving

spirit.”

In homes, in families, communities, nations, churches, organizations, etc., where love and forgiveness are lacking, a harvest of evil is observed and thriving.

UNLOVING

The current Corona virus pandemic is a jolting reminder that we live in perilous times (2Tim 3:1). During the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic in Nigeria, people, organizations, foreign countries, etc., donated, huge sums of cash, food and materials to assist the most vulnerable in the society. But what did we see in Nigeria? The food items were stored away in warehouses and many got spoilt rather than being given to those needing it and much of the money donated appeared equally misappropriated. These are clear unloving and wicked attitudes of the perilous times.

Looking inwards, most homes today including some Christian homes, are bedeviled by lots of unloving acts. Communities and organizations are not left out in the practice of lack of love. The outcome remains a mountain of various kinds of problems: -Unresolved and unresolvable conflicts. The Church of God is also not spared of this menace.

But, contrary to what is commonly obtainable now, here is one view of what Christians looked like, from a **Greek convert named Aristides: in the early centuries.**

“They love one another. They never fail to help widows; they save orphans from those who will hurt them. If they have something, they give freely to the man who has nothing; if they see a stranger, they

take him home and are happy, as though he were a real brother. They don't consider themselves brothers and sisters in the usual sense, but brothers instead through the Spirit, in God."

Can we rightly say that the same observation is true today?

Questions:

1. What are our contributions and efforts today towards the needy in our society that demonstrate our love? Are we equally guilty of unloving attitude?
2. What NGO has the Church Of Christ, formed to help the vulnerable as a way of extending love to them?
3. Is it enough to only concern ourselves with assisting members of the church only?

Christ's love, which the Great Commandment calls us to emulate, entails:

- (a) **Sacrifice** – What if a friend died to save you? How would you live differently from that point on? How would you act toward your (deceased) friend's family to show your appreciation? In that light, the fact that Christ died for us should spur Christians to a life of radical generosity, showing our love for Him and His children.
- (b) **Mercy** – Jesus healed, fed and forgave at every opportunity. Jesus continually emphasized the importance of compassion towards the poor, sick and lost – not just in words, but in actions.
- (c) **Obedience** – Jesus states plainly in John 14 that “*Anyone who loves Me will obey My teaching...Anyone who does*

not love Me will not obey My teaching". (14:23-24)
Obedience and love are joined at the hip.

(d) **Selflessness** – Philippians 2 associates love with putting the interests of others above our own, a concept so contrary to our nature that it may require a lifetime of sanctification to learn to ***"love our neighbours as ourselves."***

(e) **Unity** – Philippians 2 also joins the call in John 17 for absolute, complete unity of all believers in mind and spirit. ***"Then the world will know that You sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me."*** (Joh 17:23)

(f) **Forgiveness** – Jesus linked love and forgiveness inextricably in His encounter with the woman who washed His feet with perfumed ointment at the dinner. ***"Whoever has been forgiven little loves little."*** (Luk 7:47). If we realize just how many sins Jesus has forgiven us, we will not be so quick to judge others. ***"Now which of them will love him more?..." Simon replied, 'I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven.'"*** (Luk 7:42-43)

If we fail to show all these qualities, we too are unloving.

UNFORGIVING

Some Christians would think that forgiveness would flow from the forgiving grace God has given us through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. That is, the one who is shown grace by God would show grace and mercy to others. Paradoxically, this is not always the case. Surprisingly, most Christians who

welcome God's grace or forgiveness, often fail to show similar grace to others.

Many are mean-spirited, condescending, harsh, unforgiving, and speak with a critical spirit. This is contrary to the character of God and the teaching of Scripture. When it comes to our sin and unworthiness, the truth of Scripture is, ***“He has not dealt with us according to our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities”*** (Psa 103:10). God has not treated us as we deserve. In fact, He treats us much better than we deserve. Again, that is grace! The Lord is God who loves, forgives, and shows great compassion towards the undeserving and has done so towards us. Yet some believers refuse to give grace to others, who are themselves undeserving.

Classic Biblical Examples:

1. Jonah and the people of Nineveh

Jonah, for example, was a prophet of God who became angry when the Lord showed forgiveness to Israel's enemy, the Ninevehites, and withheld judgment to them when they repented of their sins (Jonah 3:1-10). Jonah became angry at God's display of grace, saying, ***“I knew that You are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, and one who relents concerning calamity”*** (Jonah 4:2).

The contradiction is that Jonah personally enjoyed God's grace, but then selfishly wanted God to withhold it from others. Many of us today may be afflicted with the same 'sickness.'

2. The servants in Matthew 18:23-27

Jesus also told about a servant who owed a great debt, and when the man could not pay, he pleaded with his master, who felt compassion and graciously forgave his debt (Matt 18:23-27). However, the same man who had received forgiveness from his superior, later refused to forgive another man who owed him a very small amount comparatively (Matt 18:28-30). The man who was shown grace refused to show grace to another, and the Lord called him “wicked” (Matt 18:32).

I've often pondered why some (including me), who rejoice in God's grace, refuse to show grace to others? I think there are several reasons. It could be as a result of the following:

(a) Ignorance of God and His Word. Some believers fail to understand forgiveness as a characteristic of God (Exo 34:6; Psa 86:15; Pro 3:34; Joh 1:14; Eph 1:6; Heb 4:16; 10:29; 1Pet 5:10), and that He directs His people to be forgiving and loving to others (Matt 5:44-45; Luk 6:27-28; Col 4:6). Practicing forgiveness is not automatic in the Christian's life. It must be learned and actively applied. As the believer learns about God's grace, he can then actively share it with others.

(b) A judgmental spirit. It seems as though some people came out of the womb with a judge's gavel in their hand. These stand in the place of God rendering judgment on others according to their own arbitrary standards and expectations. Often this judgmental spirit takes the form of gossip and maligning; badmouthing others we don't like. Such a critical spirit lacks the capacity to show grace because everyone is guilty, and some more than others. In some ways, running

others down is a subtle form of self-praise.

(c) Arrogance. Arrogant people don't show forgiveness. In fact, they lack the capacity because they're so self-absorbed and consumed with thinking about themselves and their own life, they have no room in their thinking and speech to show grace to others. I've heard it said that “arrogant people never see their own faults, but only the faults of others,” and I think there's merit to the statement.

(d) Refusing to forgive. An unforgiving spirit makes it difficult to show grace. Forgiveness means we release someone from an offense or debt they owe us (or a debt we think they owe us). Forgiveness releases them from paying the penalty for their crime (real or imagined). By refusing to forgive, we end up harboring hatred, and there's no room for grace in a hate-filled heart.

Conclusion.

Love is action, not just words. Love is the essence of our faith. The perception of Christians will change when our love of God extends and overflows naturally and unconditionally beyond our fellow believers to all mankind.

Theoretically, forgiveness is wonderful. Realistically, it's nearly impossible. When sin comes charging at us, harming us in ways we could have never imagined, and the sinner is there before us, unable to undo the damage, how can we grant forgiveness? Even more, how can we do it again and again and again? But that is what Matthew 18, asks us to do. On the other hand, how do we overcome the obstacles to unforgiveness?

- First, it starts with knowing what the Bible teaches about the forgiving character of God. We cannot live what we do not know, and knowledge of God's character and Word necessarily precedes living His will.
- Second, we must learn to see everyone from the biblical perspective, as undeserving of God's forgiveness and love. Choose to love the unlovely and show them grace. Treat them better than they deserve. (1Joh 4:19-20; Heb 4:16). Since we've tasted of the grace of God, let us also be gracious to others.

Ugwumba, E. A. (Deacon) – (*March 21st, 2021*).

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS

TUESDAY CLASS

MEN - *Teacher:* Raphael Udokang
WOMEN - *Teacher:* Alice Ndueso

NEXT WEEK

COMBINED CLASS:
Teacher: Abiodun Adegoroye [Min]

WEDNESDAY BIBLE CLASS

Moderator: Edet O. Edet
Teacher: Abiodun Adegoroye [Min]

NEXT WEEK

Moderator: Mayowa Ajala
Teacher: David Akpata

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENT

MARCH 2021

BIBLE READERS

Franklyn Ejeh & Emmanuel Aladeokomo

BAPTISMAL OFFICIALS

Chinedu Ogwuru, Tommy Udoh,
 Gloria Adegoroye, Alice Ndueso

USHERS: David Ogunbiyi, Akin Akande,
 Victo Okoh, Chinedu Obani, Gabriel Patrick,
 Nse Abbah, Ime Akpan, Sunday John

APRIL 2021

BIBLE READERS

Anthony Ehimare & Uduakobong Akpan

BAPTISMAL OFFICIALS

Dominic Monshum, Ime Akpan,
 Biola Gbeleyi, Agnes Ekanem

USHERS: Okechugwu Oji, Murphy Agbogidi,
 Chigozie Ugwumba, Abasiama Daniel
 Ayo Akande, Franklyn Ejeh, Nsemeke Daniel

WORSHIP ARRANGEMENT

| SESSIONS | TIME | ZONES |
|----------------|-------------------|--|
| FIRST SESSION | 8.00AM - 9.40AM | GWARINPA, KARSANA, LIFE-CAMP DAWAKI, KATAMPE, KADO, DAPE ANGWA-CEMENT, DAKIBIYU UTAKO, WUYE, JABI, GISHIRI KADO ESTATE, JAH AIRPORT ROAD, KARMAJIJI, KUCHINGORO LUGBE, GARKI, DURUMI, GADUWA GUDU, APO, PRINCE & PRINCESS SUNNYVALE, LOKOGOMA |
| SECOND SESSION | 10.00AM - 11.40AM | WUSE & WUSE2, KUBWA, KAGINI DAKWA, DEIDEI, BYAZHIN, DUTSE JIGO, USHAFI, BWARI, KARMO GWAGWA, IDU, JIKWOYI, OROZO KURUDU, KARU, NYANYA, MARARABA, ADO, MASAKA, MPAGE, MAITAMA, ASOKORO, GUZAPE |

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“The righteous man walks in his integrity;
His children are blessed after him.”

Proverbs 20:7

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY WORSHIP

First Session: 8.00 a.m. - 9.40 a.m.

Second Session: 10.00 a.m. - 11.40 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

General Bible Class: 6.00 p.m - 7.10 p.m.

SUNDAY RADIO BIBLE PROGRAMME

Always tune to our Radio Programme on

RAY POWER 100.5 FM

Time: 7.00 a.m. - 7.30 a.m.

Abuja Evangelism

TV Programme on ITV

(UHF Channel 142 and Star Times Channel 130)

on Saturday 6:00pm - 6:30pm

TOTAL ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

Brothers **125**

Sisters **159**

Children **86**

Visitors **06**

Total 376

NOTICES

CLEANING OF CHURCH PREMISES

Brethren in the following zones/area are to clean the church auditorium and surrounding on **Saturday, 27th March 2021. Time: 7.00 a.m.** They are: **WUSE,**

WUSE2, GISHIRI, JAH, DUTSE, JIGO, USHAFA, BWARI, KADO,

EFAB ESTATE ROAD & KADO ESTATE ZONES.

[Leaders: Bro. Emmanuel Efre, Akin Akande, Okechukwu Oji, Sis. Biola Gbeleyi, Constance Kareem & Emem Tommy]

SUBMISSION OF TEACHING ASSIGNMENT

Brethren assigned to handle **SUNDAY & WEDNESDAY TEACHING CLASSES**

are to send their teaching to the Church email: cockaddo@yahoo.com

latest **ONE WEEK** before their assignments. **PLEASE TREAT AS VERY IMPORTANT.**

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

Brethren are hereby advised to strictly adhere to the COVID-19 PROTOCOLS:

1. Mandatory use of facemask..
2. Present yourself for temperature check.
3. Wash your hands upon entering the church premises at the designated points.
4. Use hand sanitizer.
5. Use the exit doors and gate after worship.

FOR COUNSELING AND PRAYERS PLEASE CALL

0802 223 0608

0803 311 9396

08024300206

0803 300 7082

0817 064 1951

0803 382 4662