

# ChurchLife Monthly

Growing in Grace, Serving in Love



## A Life Fully Given

There is a meaningful difference between a life that is partly lived for God and one that is fully given to Him. It is not always seen in grand moments, but in daily choices; in what we prioritise, how we respond, and where our hearts truly rest.

A life fully given is not about perfection, but about surrender. It is a life that seeks God's direction, holds firmly to His purpose, and refuses to settle for a faith that is occasional or convenient. It is seen in the willingness to obey, the discipline to remain consistent, and the humility to be shaped by His word.

As you read through this edition, may this theme gently guide your reflections: what does it truly mean to live a life fully given to God? And may it draw us toward a deeper, more intentional walk with Him.

## The Cost of a White Lie

It is remarkable how a small white lie can grow into something far greater than we intended.

Growing up, Gracie was the girl everyone admired. Parents wanted their children to be like her. Teachers praised her. Girls envied her. She excelled academically, in sports, and in appearance. She seemed specially favoured by God. But admiration came with pressure. Gracie felt she had to live up to expectations. She could not afford to disappoint them. *Continued on page 3*

*That you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.  
- Colossians 1:10*

### In this edition

#### Edification Corner

Key lessons from April, calling us to purposeful and fully committed Christian living.

#### Youth Picnic Gallery

Moments from our Youth Picnic. Fun, food, and fellowship shared together.

#### The Cost of a White Lie

A story of pressure and pride, showing how small compromises erode trust, and why truth still matters.

## Edification Corner

### Month Overview

In April, our reflections continued to call us into a more intentional and grounded Christian walk. Through each teaching and sermon, we were reminded that the Christian life is not passive or occasional, but one that requires clarity of purpose, obedience, and daily dependence on God.

Across the month, we were challenged to return to the fundamentals; to understand God's will more clearly, to live with purpose, to avoid half-hearted faith, and to reflect Christ in both our character and relationships. Each lesson pointed us toward a life that is not only professed, but truly practiced.

### 5th April

#### Teaching: Reflections on Baptism

Bro. Oluwafemi Emmanuel (Min.)

This lesson served as a reminder of the meaning and importance of baptism in God's plan for salvation. We were taught that baptism is not merely symbolic, but an important step of obedience in the believer's response to the gospel. Passages such as Mark 16:16 and Acts 2:38 highlight the close connection between faith, repentance, and baptism.

#### Sermon: Lead Me On

Psalm 32:8-9 | Bro. David Oyesanya

We were reminded of the importance of seeking God's direction in all things. While human counsel has its place, true guidance comes from God, who alone knows the way we should go. Using examples like David and Jehoshaphat, the lesson showed that victory and clarity come when we depend on God rather than ourselves. As we journey through life, we must continually ask God to lead us.

### 12th April

#### Teaching: Reflections on the Church

Psalm 90:9-12 | Bro. Dayo Bello

This lesson explored the meaning of the church as an assembly, with focus on the universal church, described in Scripture as the body of Christ, the house and temple of God, the kingdom of Christ, and the Bride of Christ. We were reminded that the church was purchased by Christ's blood and is called to be holy and blameless. The lesson also warned against anything that brings division or fragmentation into separate groups with differing teachings, emphasizing that Christ alone is the head and ultimate authority over His church.

#### Sermon: Don't Forget the Purpose of Your Existence

Psalm 90:9-12 | Bro. Stephen Idowu

This sermon reminded us that life is not just about success, comfort, or personal achievement, but about fulfilling God's purpose and reflecting His glory. Though we pass through different stages and challenges, we must not lose sight of why we are here. Earthly gains are temporary, but a life lived in service to God and others leaves a lasting impact. The question we were left with is simple but weighty: what will we be remembered for?

### 19th April

#### Sermon: Convenient Christianity: A Silent Killer

Matthew 16:24 | Bro. Gideon Sunday

This message warned against a half-committed Christian life; one that is selective, inconsistent, and driven by convenience. Such a life weakens spiritual discipline, resists correction, and lacks true devotion. We were called to examine ourselves, repent where necessary, and renew our commitment to Christ, choosing obedience over comfort. The reminder was clear: following

Jesus requires full surrender, not occasional participation.

### 26th April

#### Teaching: How Can We Be Different

James 1:19-21 | Bro. Abolarin S.B

This lesson challenged us to live lives that are visibly different through the fruit of the Spirit. True Christianity is reflected in our behaviour, relationships, and responses; being swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger. We were reminded that if God's word does not dwell in us, we risk becoming indistinguishable from the world. To walk in the Spirit is to consistently reflect Christ in how we live.

#### Sermon: Blest Be the Tie

SOC 230 | Bro. James Isaac

This sermon reflected on the beauty and strength of Christian fellowship. Using the hymn Blest Be the Tie That Binds, we were reminded that believers are united in love, prayer, shared burdens, and common hope. True fellowship goes beyond surface connection, it is a deep bond that reflects heavenly unity and sustains us through life's journey.



## Youth Picnic Gallery

Fun, food, and fellowship

A joyful highlight from April, the Youth Picnic brought us together for a day of fun, laughter, and fellowship. Through games, shared meals, and meaningful moments, bonds were strengthened and new connections formed.



## The Cost of a White Lie

By Sis. Ifechukwude Nwaodor

One afternoon, a familiar yet unrecognisable voice called her name. “Gracie?” She turned to see a smiling woman she could not place.

“It’s so good to see you! How have you been?”

Gracie hesitated. “It’s been a while,” she said.

“You’re still just as beautiful and outstanding as ever. What have you been up to?”

Sensing an old schoolmate, she replied, “I work in a private equity firm.”

“Really? Which one?”

“It’s a new firm in Nigeria, Arial Partners. I work as chief of staff.”

The words left her mouth before she could retrieve them. Pride would not allow her to correct herself.

The woman -Sarah, she later remembered- beamed and invited her to the alumni gathering. Gracie agreed.

That week, anxiety consumed her. Though job searching and living from

hand to mouth, she spent her last savings on a makeover to look successful.

At the reunion, Sarah announced her arrival. “Everyone, look who’s here, our very own Chief of Staff!”

The room erupted in admiration. “Still the most successful among us,” one classmate said. “God truly has favourites.”

Each compliment deepened her discomfort, yet she convinced herself it was harmless.

As the evening ended, they joined hands in prayer, thanking God for her “abundant provision” and “corporate influence.” Every “Amen” weighed heavily on her heart. She needed prayer for debts and employment, but she had built an image too high to step down from.

After the prayer, Caleb approached her. “Gracie, I’m out of work. My wife is expecting soon. Could you help me secure a position at your company?”

The truth was within reach: *I’m struggling too.* But pride prevailed.

“Of course,” she replied. “Send your résumé. I’ll ensure it’s considered.”

Two weeks later, while sending out job applications from her small room, her phone buzzed.

“Hi Gracie,” Caleb’s message read. “I received a lower offer elsewhere, but I’m holding on because of your assurance. I’m trusting your word.” Her heart sank.

What she had dismissed as harmless had become a stumbling block for someone else. By pretending to be a source of opportunity she did not possess, she had delayed the very blessing Caleb needed. She had exchanged integrity for image.

A white lie may protect pride in the moment, but it weakens trust. When we choose a polished lie over truth, we stop being vessels of grace and begin promoting ourselves instead. May we remain vessels of grace, not architects of illusion.

*“Therefore, putting away lying, ‘Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbour,’ for we are members of one another.” – Ephesians 4:25 (NKJV)*



**Book of Life**

by Nathaniel Bassey

This is the story of a brother  
Who slept and woke up in Forever Land.  
He looked around; nothing was familiar.  
He wondered how he got to be there.

He took a walk around the city  
And saw a brick house with a small door.  
Walked into the room and saw a man in white,  
"Must be an angel," so he said:

"Mr. Angel, I'm a stranger; I don't know what's  
going on.  
The last thing I remember was I slept last  
night."  
"This is a border town that takes you where  
you get a crown;  
Must have heard of Heaven where you came  
from.  
Only those whose names I find,  
Written in this Book of Life,  
Will forever be in Paradise."

Flipping the pages of this great book,  
This brother gave a cursory gaze.  
He saw the names of prophets, saints, and  
martyrs  
Who kept the faith and won the race.

But he said, "Mr. Angel, where is my name?  
Can you tell me what is going wrong?  
I'm a pillar in my local church,  
I give my offerings and play my part,  
Feed the poor, and have myself a good name."

"Unforgiveness lurks within your heart,  
Some folks that you will never let go.  
Little foxes and secret faults  
Will spring surprises on that final day."

So much for this "wonder brother."  
What about you? What about me?  
Let him who thinks that he stands,  
Let him take heed lest he falls.

Only the pure in heart will see Jesus;  
Those whose garments glow with purity.

Is your name in that Book of Life?  
Tell me, is your name in that Book of Life  
there?  
Think about it.

**Going Forward**

Looking back on all we have learned over the past month, one message stays with us: a life **fully** given.

Not a life divided between convenience and commitment, but one steadily yielded to God in thought, word, and action. A life that chooses obedience over ease, purpose over distraction, and faithfulness over comfort.

As the days ahead unfold, may we continue in this direction, growing not just in what we know, but in how we live. And may our lives, in their consistency and daily surrender, reflect what it truly means to be fully given to God.

We'd love to keep the conversation going beyond the newsletter. Follow the church's social media platforms for updates, uplifting content, and glimpses into our activities throughout the month. Your engagement helps us grow and reach more souls – so don't just read along, connect with us!

@cocegbeda @cocegbeda The Church of Christ, Egbeda

Join us for Sunday (9AM-12PM), Thursday (7PM), and Friday (6PM) services and be part of our worship and fellowship.

11/12, Mufutau Adeyemi street, Egbeda, Lagos.



**Join Our Sunday Worship!**  
Scan to watch live, 9 AM-12 PM.