

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

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THE LORD'S FLOCK GROW DIGEST

Are we ready to move forward to the next level? In Exodus 14:15, the Lord said to Moses *“why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel TO GO FORWARD!”* This divine directive is a call to step out in faith and obedience, and to trust in all His promises to enable us to cross the “Red Seas” in our lives.

What does “moving forward” involve?

1. It involves a change of attitude.

- 1.1 A mindset shift – from defeatism or negativity to positive perspective or bright outlook. We should not be like the Israelites who developed a slave mentality, longing to return to Egypt where they had a life of servitude and oppression (Exodus 14:10-12).
- 1.2 A “renewal of the mind.” With the power of the Holy Spirit, we need to transform ourselves into the image of God, studying and meditating in His word, hearing and applying them to our lives (Romans 12:1-2; 10:17), living by faith and not by sight (2 Corinthians 5:7).
- 1.3 A believing faith in God’s promises and favors. We should not settle with “hand-me-downs.” We have to have the mind of God (1 Corinthians 2:16), and believe in the power of God’s word, e.g. that we are the head not the tail (Deuteronomy 28), and that God will make a way when there seems to be no way, among others.

2. It involves learning from your past mistakes.

Isaiah tells God’s people to stop looking at the past and to focus on the new things God is doing (Isaiah 43:18-19).

- 2.1 Let us not dwell on what we cannot do. Rather, dwell on what **GOD CAN DO.**
- 2.2 Let us not fix our mind on the problem that cannot possibly be solved, for nothing is impossible with God.
- 2.3 Let us seek wisdom to better understand the situation we are in; focus on the power of God instead of becoming panic-stricken.

3. Don’t stop. Keep moving forward.

God has called us to a life of growth, transformation and purpose. Each step may get harder but we should not stop. Go ahead with the goal, work on it and give our best effort to stay in the course. Always search for the word of God.

4. Move forward, not backward.

4.1 The massive and giant waves of the sea may be likened to the immensity of God’s assignment that He wants us to accomplish through His great power.

4.2 “Move NOW.” There is urgency in carrying out the instructions of God.

4.3 “GO!” Just do it! Take a step of faith, a purposeful stride and a determined march. The Lord’s Flock is in a divine mission and we all have to keep moving and go forth in evangelization, teaching, stewardship and servitude (Matthew 9:35-38).

4.4 Marching forward is a demonstration of obedience to God’s order and direction.

5. It involves faith in God and putting to use what He has placed in our hands.

Moses had only faith in what God promised him, and a stick when he led the Israelites. As directed, he raised the stick to divide the waters to cross the Red Sea. Similarly, we should put our faith in the word of God and use our talents and spiritual gifts in leading others to their destiny.

Conclusion: Inevitably, in our Christian life, we may find ourselves in a seemingly desperate situation, trapped with no apparent way out, or, we may have been directed by God to accomplish impossible missions that involve conquering certain daunting challenges. In these situations, God calls us into a MOVE FORWARD season of our faith journey – a call to take action of faith, trust, hope and obedience. God is not calling us to stand still in our faith but to advance and journey deeper into His promises of victory, deliverance, and a future filled with blessings.

Reflection: *What has God gifted you with to move yourself forward and lead others to their God-given destiny?*

Prayer: *Heavenly Father, empower us to keep moving forward, to keep pressing on, to keep reaching for the promises You have given us no matter what obstacles we may encounter along the way. Give us courage to step out into what You are calling us to do. In Jesus’ Name. AMEN!*

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