

## Spotlight on Family

"...I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matthew 16:18)

I just want to say thank you for being the person you are to us in this ministry.

2020 will be etched in world history as a year that ripped the soul out of many families. Be it through the COVID-19 pandemic or other personal or national tragedies.

My family remained anchored in the Lord as we continue our journey through the eye of the storm with my wife, Agnes' health. Thank you so much for standing with us.

The COVID-19 pandemic was like a sieve. It stripped away so many lives, livelihoods and freedom. Entire citizens of nations found themselves incarcerated in their homes. Suddenly people woke up to the things that truly matter in life as was reflected in their shopping lists. The foundation of human society was vigorously shaken in ways that revealed the true state of health of our family relationships. For some it was a pressure cooker experience, and for others it was a cherished and fruitful family retreat!

A valuable spotlight was cast on families through the Duchess of Cambridge, Kate Middleton's Passion Project the "5 Big Questions on the Under Fives". The research was launched in January 2020 in a partnership between the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's The Royal Foundation and Ipsos MORI.

There were 527,898 global responses to the "5 Big Questions", showing that People overwhelmingly believe that a child's future is not pre-determined at birth. However, 76% of people are not aware that the first five years are most important for health and happiness in adulthood.

During an online forum, the Duchess said "I have seen that experiences such as homelessness, addiction, and poor mental health are often grounded in a difficult childhood. But I have also seen, how positive protective factors in the early years can play a crucial role in shaping our futures."

The Duchess also made the point that "The early years are not simply about how we raise our children. They are in fact about how we raise the next generation of adults. They are about the society we will become."

Over the years we have been working to building strong families and raising godly children. By God's grace 2021 will be no different.

May the grace of our Lord continue to abound in your life and family as you remain steadfast in your partnership with us. It takes a village to raise a child.

Have a grace-filled Christmas and a fruitful New Year as we all look to Him that is building us as His Church.

Chuks Aniereobi,  
Director.