

Newsletter September - October 2014

I trust you've had a grace filled holiday. Perhaps you've got into the ice bucket challenge too. May the Lord daily drench you in His Spirit.

As we all begin this new season, I thought I should share extracts from a sermon I've had the privilege of preaching several times in different parts of the globe. It's about the godly characteristics of the majestic Eagle; a bird that always captures my imagination. I hope you get blessed and discuss the notes with your family.

1. Eagles have always been associated with royalty.

Every Christian child belongs to the King of Kings and He daily draws them towards Himself (Exodus 19:4 -6, 1Peter 2:9).

2. All birds have eyes, but Eagles have vision.

An Eagle can see its prey with details (full colour) from 5 miles away. Do you and your children have a 5 year vision? Remember you can only pursue what you see. Jo Sanders once said "Eyes that look are common, but eyes that see are rare." And Helen Keller said "Having eyes without vision is worst than being blind." God promised that your children will see visions through His Holy Spirit (Joel 2:28). So challenge your young ones to be zealous, passionate and daring for the Lord's Kingdom!

3. Eagles never flock.

Every true leader sometimes fly's alone. If your children are to become like God called them to be, they must be willing to go alone! Be the Noah of your generation! Genesis 7:1 – For thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation. David is another example. He stood alone and experienced God while caring for his father's sheep. He stood alone before Goliath and triumphed! Remind your children that "EVERYONE" may be doing

8. An Eagle reproduces itself.

Eagles begin their nests with thorns and cushion it with soft material. When they have Eaglets that insist on staying in the nest longer than is necessary, they rip off the soft material thereby exposing the Eaglet to the thorns. The youngster is forced out of its comfort zone, pushed out to fly and hunt for itself with daddy mentoring them. You see, that is part of the reason why a female Eagle tests a male Eagle before mating with him. The male Eagle has to show commitment and agility. It is the male Eagle that will have to teach the Eaglets to fly, and be able to catch and carry them with their wings when the Eaglet's wings are still very weak, and the baby is in danger of being "jam on the ground." Without this, there will be no future for the offspring. Read Deuteronomy 32:11-12. God prefers progress to comfort. Don't be a chicken and expect to produce Eagles. David became a giant killer by putting his trust in the Lord. Soon giant killers became common in Israel!

9. Eagles oil their feathers

Eagles preen their feathers to make them waterproof. This allows the bird to operate in all weather. They can even dive into water to catch a prey and come out dry! Does not the Bible teach us to be in season and out of season? (2Timothy 4:2), always ready to give an answer for our hope in Christ? (1Peter 3:15). We must seek and stay under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. (John 15:5; Acts 1:8). We will fail without the anointing.

10. Eagles fly the highest

Isaiah 40:27-31 – Eagle represents a spirit that excels. The Lord promised that you and your children will be the head and not the tail, above only and not beneath when you are faithful to Him (Deuteronomy 28:13). His hand will lift you up! (Exodus 19:4-6)

or having something does not make them any less than who they are

4. Eagles only eat living flesh

Eagles never satisfy themselves with old meat. Always seek fresh food for yourself and your family. (Exodus 16:16-20) Be constant at the covenant table, and not an alien (Ephesians 2:12; Psalm 1:1-3)

5. Eagles test before they trust.

Trust is a result of test over time. Do not trust because of gifts or appearance, but because of test. 1Thessalonians 5:21-22 Put all things to the test: keep what is good and avoid every kind of evil. (GNB) Apostle Paul in Act 17:11 said of the Berean believers "... these were more noble than those of Thessalonica, in that they received the Word with all readiness of mind and searched the Scriptures daily to see if those things were so." (MKJV)

6. Eagles welcome storms.

Eagles fly towards the storm. The storm helps the Eagle to get to heights it would not normally get to. Several scripture verses encourage us to endure hardship and fiery trials of our faith. Life challenges are stepping stones to greater heights. They are like dragons with treasures in their mouth: tame the dragon and the treasure is yours! We should encourage our young ones to be more like eggs than carrots. The same hot water that makes the hard carrot go all soft and limp makes the fragile egg hard! Consider the following Bible verses: 1Peter 1:7, 1Peter 4:12, James 1:2-4, Romans 5:3-5. Sometimes you are tried in what you have been delivered from. Stand firm and your deliverance will be affirmed.

7. Eagles renew themselves

Isa 40:31 but those who wait on Jehovah shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run,

11. Eagles make their nests on very great heights; safe from predators.

We must teach our children to make their savings in the heavenly bank where no thief can break into nor moth or rust devours. Teach them to give generously to the Lord's work. (Matthew 6:19-20) Remember that it is God that sets you on a Rock that is higher than you. (Psalm 61:2) You will dwell on high and your food and water assured. (Isaiah 33:16) It is only in the Lord we are safe.

12. Eagles are faithful to their mates

Eagles usually will stay with the same mate for life. Divorce is extremely rare. God hates divorce (Malachi 2:16) and He is a covenant keeper! He is always faithful to His own and completely trustworthy. Many people's lives are blighted through infidelity and divorce. The Lord Jesus Christ tells us that we should be people of our words. (Matthew 5:37, James 5:12)

13. Almost all other birds migrate. The Eagle does not migrate

Eagles do not migrate. They don't move with the trends. In the words of James Ryle, as believers we often run the risk of being "too hip to be holy, too relevant to be reverent, too cool to be Christlike." We and our children must be firmly rooted in the Lord and His word. (*Colossians 2:7*) "*So that we no longer may be infants, tossed to and fro and carried about by every wind of doctrine, in the dishonesty of men, in cunning craftiness, to the wiles of deceit*" (MKJV).

Finally brothers and sisters in Christ, "I pray that from His glorious, unlimited resources He will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make His home in your hearts as you trust in Him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes

and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint (MKJV). If you and your children will bind yourselves to the Lord, you will experience Elevation, Acceleration and Duration! Pray and ask God for new direction and strategy that will produce new and superior result. Also read Psalm 103:4-5

from God.” (Ephesians 3:16-19 NLT

Attached is our Praise and prayer bulletin for September and October 2014.

Chuks Aniereobi