

Bridging the Gap with Delight, Florence and Ezechi Inuagwu



Abuja Bible College in Kagoro

Equipping and Encouraging Christian believers for faithful bible teaching

But the gift is not like the trespass.

Reflections

But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! Again, the gift of God is not like the result of the one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. (Rom 5:15-17) NIV.

A friend recently gave me a series of 12 beautiful Christmas reflections by the Principal and staff of Belfast Bible College. I personally enjoyed the piece from Romans 5 vs 15 titled, "the gift is not like the trespass" by Patrick Mitchel, the Principal.

Though Paul was not preaching a Christmas message, the point he was making brings out by far, the outlandish blessedness of the gift of God given on Christmas - His son; Himself.

While Adam and Jesus both have a common humanity and are also both representative of humanity, Adam is the unitary head of the new creation humanity. But Paul argues for the superiority of Jesus as a human figure over Adam in stating that "the gift is not like the trespass", (15 & 16) as he connects the incarnation with its salvific and redemptive purposes.

Notice the comparative and superlative phrases: "how much more" (15&17), "Overflow to the many" (15) and "Abundant provision of grace" (17). While Adam's trespass brings sin, death, judgement and condemnation, Jesus Christ's righteousness brings justification, grace, righteousness and life. This means that Christ by defeating death has by far in excess undone what Adam did so that those who receive God's "outrageous" grace reign in life through Jesus. This is the cause of great rejoicing and celebration at Christmas! Alleluia! Amen!

Yet, there are many around us who blindly and wrongly believe that the effect of Adam's trespass is so insurmountably greater than the blessings of God's gracious gift of Jesus. Can you tell the "good news of great joy", and let Jesus open the blind eyes and soften the hard hearts? *Christmas blessings & a wonderful 2016!*

Family News

Ezechi

College started as scheduled, though with fewer students than we had anticipated. The first term went well. The students and teachers all enjoyed the Christmas break and the second term began on January 4, 2016. I am still working on my thesis as we plan to resume. My health has been up and down. Please pray for energy to pull through successfully. I have equally been busy with some preaching engagements in church and have done a bible exposition for a NIFES leadership conference.

We have also started advertising and recruitment for 2016/ 2017 session. We are seeing encouraging signs with a few people picking up the forms and more enquiries than before. Pray along with us that we would be able to have more people applying.

Florence with Delight



Florence

Florence is doing well, serving as the College Administrator and she continues to enjoy her job. Training materials have been more ready for each day's classes. Continue to pray for wisdom for her as she continues to improve our work.

She has so far managed excellently well the admin role alongside family responsibilities

Delight

Delight has settled well in her new school and did very well in her first term exams. She felt a bit disappointed getting to

learn that she made a "C" grade in mathematics, despite her hard work.

She is growing really competitive; pray for wisdom for us to positively channel this well so that she would be gracious and yet resourceful. She is a lovely, lovely girl. Also, we pray that she would continue to grow in wisdom, intelligence and love for God's word

College News

Below is a picture of students buzzing in twos during a class/lecture session. I hope to bring a profile of the students in subsequent news. Being fewer meant that they are having to do loads of preaching exercises, and, honestly, they are doing well, way beyond where their predecessors were in the first term. We continue to pray for more students, assured that we would achieve the same result with extra teaching hands.

On a low note, one of the prospective students, Rev. Luka Abbah, had an accident on his way and could not join us after he was discharged from the hospital. He has mended well and desires to join in the next session. Pray for him.



Joseph Chagga and Gad James



John Nipeh & Priscila Omokhale

Thank you for your partnership with us through this past year. May the LORD richly reward you. Amen.

Items for praise and prayer:-

- ❖ Praise God for good health and strength for Florence, Delight, Myself and the ABC team.
- ❖ Praise God for the current students and a successful first term. Journey mercies granted to them all.
- ❖ Pray for all the guest lecturers for wisdom and grace to teach and also to continue to come on as scheduled.
- ❖ Pray for God's wisdom and energy for Florence as she handles the practical organising aspects of ABC.
- ❖ Pray for good health and strength for Ezechi as he goes on to teach and juggles the completion of his thesis.

For enquiries or partnership, call or e-mail: