Pastoral Address

Dear Friends
Greetings

During the month of May, I was always awoken from my comfortable sleep by the incessant chirping sounds of the young birds trying to coax their respective parents to feed them. At the same time, farmers are also busy because this period is the lambing season. One of nature’s wonders is that even the birds of the field and animals without smart phones and computers know when to plan their population increments.

Jesus in Luke 12:54-56 rebuked his hearers because of their failure to know and interpret the present times. Some weeks ago, I was in a conversation with a friend who expressed his views on the political climate in Nigeria. To him, while the marauding Islamists (predominantly Fulanis) are using violence to seize lands and power in Nigeria, the southern leaders are preoccupied with infighting and undermining each other.

The observation of my friend is not dissimilar to what is happening in the Gadangme speaking tribal lands. We are eager to learn the languages of our sojourners, our chiefs selling our precious lands, the local dialect not being taught in schools because there are no Ga and Dangme trained teachers to name a few woes. On our last visit to Ghana I observed that Gadangme market sellers were more eager to speak all languages except their own mother tongue because that was good for business.

Can we read the present times that in the near future, we may cease to exist as a tribe? I was watching a documentary during which the presenter was expressing the concern of some well meaning Americans that slowly the ‘white skin’ Americans shall be in the minority forgetting that the land was once occupied by the ‘American Indians’ who are fast becoming extinct as a race. The Aborigines are facing the same struggle and even in the UK Enoch Powell came out with his own solutions though not palatable to most. I guess it is time we wake up from our dream of complacency. If we in the diaspora cannot do anything to sustain our language and culture, and help educate our kids, how on earth do we think our people back home who it seems have become desensitized will do? To those who have the urge of going home to do something. My prayer is that they will be encouraged to obey the distant call. Ezra and Nehemiah, though living comfortably in foreign lands, went home to rebuild the temple and walls of Jerusalem.

Enoch Powell once said that: “People are disposed to mistake predicting troubles for causing troubles and even for desiring troubles.” (Reflections Of A Statesman: The Writings And Speeches Of Enoch Powell.) I am not a trouble causer but rather the voice within a four-walled ‘space’ shouting to be let out to live a life free of possible extinction.

As I write this pastoral letter, I have received news of bereavements: Sisters Hilda Hammond, Comfort Clottey, and Grace Baah have all lost loved ones. I pray that the peace that God provides, which is beyond everybody’s imagination shall rest and abide with the bereaved.

Enjoy the summer.
God bless
Edward
GIFT AID SCHEME DECLARATION
London GaDanGme Speaking Fellowship (URC)
Charity Registration No: 1162239

“Woso mii maan Kiitos, anoo la, je le mi la le”
Sharing the Love of Christ, the Light of the world

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LONDON GADANGME SPEAKING FELLOWSHIP (URC)
Worshipping at St Andrews United Reformed Church
Mount Park Road, Ealing Broadway, London W5 2RP
Charity Registration No: 1162239

SOCIAL EVENING OF FUN AND FELLOWSHIP
through Music, Dinner, Dance & Fundraising
Saturday 12 October 2019

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Thank You.
Finding Time to Pray - God in our Everyday Life

The Celtic Christians had a strong awareness of God’s presence in every aspect of their daily lives. Prayer was part of every activity from the moment of waking, each morning, throughout the working day, during preparation of meals, on meeting others, at decision making moments, during times of relaxation, and right up until preparation for sleep as darkness came again at the day’s end. Many of us long to find more time for prayer. More time to sit with God, to listen, to share with him our thoughts, our thanks, our needs and the needs of others.

Maybe there are times when prayer is on the timetable. Sundays in church, a Quite Day or Retreat, or a prayer space at home.

But what about other times? The hours and minutes of everyday? God is present - but are we present in the moment?

So may be the thoughts below might be a way of finding that time.

- On walking in the morning, take 5 minutes to meet God, give thanks for a new day and offer up anything that’s on one’s mind.
- As we run water for coffee or tea - give thanks that Jesus offers us Living Water - energy and life giving.
- In the shower or the bath, give thanks for the freedom and cleansing qualities of running water.
- Making sandwiches for a packed lunch, give thanks for our daily bread and pray for those who this day will go hungry.
- In the car /bus/train, pray for safety. Pray for fellow travellers. Remembering that God’s love surrounds us as a protective shield.
- Drinking mid-morning coffee, thank God for his warmth and care. Pray for those who love us and whom we love; for family, our children and our friends.
- At midday /lunchtime, pray for Christians worldwide, who may also be at midday prayer? Give thanks for freedom of worship in this country and pray for those who are persecuted for their faith in God.
- In the afternoon, take a moment to share with God the activities of the day so far. Pray for those whom you’ve worked/met/talked to.
- Travelling home, or if at home preparing the evening meal - pray for those who will have no shelter this evening / no-one to greet them.
- Jesus was a friend to all - seek ways of offering friendship and hospitality maybe just a smile or a nod of acknowledgement.
- At evening, as night fades, give thanks to Jesus-Light of the World. He’s been our constant /unseen companion this day. Seeks his light as darkness falls. Maybe place a lighted candle as you eat your meal.
- As we prepare to sleep, give thanks for all the comforts of our homes and living spaces. Share with God all that has happened this day. Ask his forgiveness for any word or action which may have caused hurt to another. Give thanks for achievements and opportunities that this day revealed - big or small. Ask God’s calm and protection as darkness once more surrounds all of creation.

Christ as alight, illumine and guide me,
Christ as a shield overshadow and cover me,
Christ be under me, Christ be over me,
Christ be beside me, on left hand and right,
Christ be before me, be within and without me.

St, Patrick

Jane Hoskins
KASEMO 睏маKyМАLE ᐅﻜO rencont KMeNŋKronymŋę Lε (Ga Bible Study)  
MUFGC Lε NITSUMG G - MLIJAA I ( ANOINTING – PART 1)

Nikanemọ (Reading): Yesaia 61:1; Luka 4:18-19

Mlibotọmọ: (Introduction)
Awieọ akẹ keji aleee bọ ni ake ni ko tsun nii le, efitemọ ye kpaakpa. Sa ake Kristofonyo ana shishinumọ faŋọ ye ne ni mufọ mọ tsun he. Kristofoi komei enako bọ ni mufọ mọ le gọ cọ jogbọ. Ye nikasemọ nee mli le, wọbaakase nibii komei ni mufọ mọ le tsun ye Kristo wala he nikasemọ le mli. Le mọ ni afole mu le, tamọ bọ ni ejee kpo ye Yesaia 61: 1 le.

Sanebimọ kẹha sanegbọa: (Questions for Discussion)
1. Namo ji mọ ni fọcọ mọ mu le?
2. Kanemọ Yes. 61: 1 ke Luka 4: 18-19. Ṇmlamọ ni otsọ cọ eko fee eko naa kuku kuku, cọ hewọ ni mufọ mọ ba Yesu wala mli le.
3. Meni ji mọ ni mufọ mọ le tsun mọ?
4. Ani ehe ehia ọmọe Kristofoi akẹ afo ame mu kẹha nitsumọi nee? Tọọmọ ohetoo le naa.

Naamuu: (Summary)
Mẹi pii ye ọmọe ni ọcọ abonsam nọyẹlọ shishi; amẹ shwila, amẹtsi i ekumọ, atsi amẹọaaa ake nyọjì, ni sanekpakpa le shiemo he ehia amẹ.

Aatsẹ Kristofonyo ọmọe koni etsu nibii fee ni wọgba he saji le tamọ bọ ni Kristo fee le. Tamọ bọ ni afo Kristo mu ketsu nibii nee le, Afo Kristofoi hu amu ke Mumọ ᐅKοŋKronymŋę le koni ewa amẹ ketsu nitsumọi nee jogbọ.

Akase awo yitsọŋ(Memory Verse):
"Nuŋtsọ Yehowa Mumọ le ye minọ. Efo mi mu, ni etsu mi koni mibashie Sanekpakpa le mitsọ cọ ohiafoi. Etsu mi koni mibashie mei ni efe bliboo ke awirehoo le amii, koni mishie heyeli mitsọ cọ nomii le, ke mei ni awo amẹtsuŋ le. " (Yesaia 61: 1)