

TOPIC: **GOD'S TOOL BOX**

BIBLE READING: Mathew 10:1-42

MEMORY VERSE: Acts 1:8

CENTRAL TRUTH: The Church is God's toolbox, used to fulfil His mission for the Kingdom.

INTRODUCTION

After the His ascension to Heaven, Jesus planted the first church and gave the Holy Spirit to instruct and direct the activities of the church. The church is an instrument in God's hand through which His mightiness is being shown and demonstrated.

I. THE CHURCH REPRESENTS GOD'S HOLY BOX OF TOOLS

The early church played a significant role in the foundation of this mission building. They was saddled with a responsibility and mission to go and preach the gospel. Many became saved as a result of their zeal to the course. All of this happened through the dedicated men and women of the first century who put their lives on the line to do God's will. 2 Peter 3:9, Ephesians 3:10. God has a mission and he has a plan to use His redeemed people as tools to accomplish that mission. This assignment is also extended to our present dispensation.

II. FACT ABOUT GOD'S TOOL BOX

- A. He uses his tools (your talents) to bless others (Romans 12:4-8)
- B. He is not looking for special tools, but He uses them all, not leaving anyone out (1 Corinthians 1:26-31)
- C. He has assembled a variety of tools and placed them as he wanted them. (1 Corinthians 12:12-18)
- D. He is currently using all available tools! Philippians 1:6, 1 Thessalonians 2:13
- E. He uses his tools to create other tools: 2 Timothy 2:1-2

III. CRITERIA TO BE GOD'S TOOL BOX

There are criteria for being used by God as He will use vessels that are unto honour. The following are the criteria.

- A. You need to be available: The vessel or tool has to be near the user if it is to be used. The user will not bother to use the vessel if it is out of his reach no matter how clean. Isaiah 6:8, 1 Samuel 3: 3, 4
- B. You need to be empty: The vessel or tool has to be empty and free. It cannot be used if it is full of things. Can you use a cup filled with something when you want to drink water? Even if the cup is near you, if it is filled with any other substance Hebrew 12:1-2
- C. You need to be Clean: Even if the tool is near the user, and available, if it is dirty with filthy stain or mould, you would not use it? Isaiah 6 : 6-7
- D. You need to be willing: When God created man, God gave him free will. Man can choose to love God and serve Him, or he can live a life to please himself disobeying God. God respects our free will. 1 Corinthian 9:16

IV. ARE YOU AVAILABLE FOR GOD'S USE?

A. Are you allowing God to use your talents in the context of the church? It is easy to fall into the rut of not being used. Being available to God, means that you willingly use your abilities to bless others.

B. Do you tend to hold back because you feel that your efforts are too small or weak? God does not leave anyone out of His work.

C. Being available to God means that we have faith and that He can take efforts that seem insignificant and use them in great ways.

V. BENEFIT OF BEING GOD'S TOOL BOX

A. It will help us to discover and develop our spiritual gifts: 1cor 12

B. It will help us to experience miracles in our lives

C. It allows us to experience the joy and peace that comes from obedience. 1 Peter 4:10-11

D. It helps to increase our faith. Ephesian 3:20

E. The Crown of life. I Corinthians 24-27, I Peter 5:2-4, Philippians 4:1

CONCLUSION:

Every Christian is not only needed, but vital to God's purposes for the kingdom; the church represents God's box of useful tools for His purpose and glory. Your contribution whether you see it to be big or small is very significant in the eyes of God and can be instrumental to the building of the household of God.