

From Lwazi Dekeda

## Better Together

“If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”

### OUR ASSOCIATIONS CAN IMPACT OUR DESTINY NEGATIVELY

We are either made better or worse, depending on the quality of the people that we chose to associate ourselves with. There are people that can either transform us by influencing us to walk through the narrow gate of greatness or alternatively the wide gate of mediocrity.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:33

Even a well-intended person can become a victim. Read about Joshua and Caleb in Numbers 13 and note that they didn't escape the 40-year wilderness experience, even though they had a positive mindset. A good seed can be spoilt by the ground in which it is planted. Our associations have the potential to delay us from entering into your “promised land”, if they don't hold the same values or beliefs as we do. Their negativity/faithlessness can slow or stop our progress.

### OUR ASSOCIATIONS CAN IMPACT OUR DESTINY POSITIVELY

The relationship between Moses & Joshua is a good example of a mutually beneficial association. They leveraged off each other's gifting, anointing and experiences for their mutual gain.

- E.g. Exodus 17:8-13 - Combination of physical strength and spiritual maturity;
- Joshua learnt how to lead from observing Moses' leadership successes and failures. He also learnt how to walk with God.

God's plan is that we leverage off each other, to fulfill His purposes. This is part of the unity principle and the reason why God made us all different.

John Wesley established a movement that birthed the Methodist Church. This was an overflow of the fellowship he had with his brother Charles and friend George. They met weekly for prayer & study. There is immense individual & group potential, to do amazing exploits, in the fellowship of believers who are Spirit-led. Christ, through the Holy Spirit, shows up to assist believers to manifest this potential.

Read Matthew 18:20 together with John 14:26.

Discussion points:

- What is the importance of your friendships/associations aligning with your values and beliefs?
- What are the benefits of actively participating in a fellowship of believers?
- What can you do to improve the quality of your associations?
- Share a testimony about your experiences of good or bad friendships.

Action steps

- Write down three steps can you take, immediately, to add value to those in your circles.
- Pray that God may:
  - align you with people who will influence you towards your God-ordained destiny.
  - remove you from people who will delay you from your destiny.

Downtown Christian Centre

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