

## LESSON NOTE YEAR 9

### WEEK 1

#### TOPIC: UNITY AMONG CHRISTIANS (C.A.N)

Christian organisation of Nigeria have come to be an important, and most prominent part of the society reality in Nigeria. Their rapid increase in number is having a noticeable impact on the pattern of development in the country

#### CHRISTIANS ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (C.A.N)

CAN is an association of churches with distinct identities, recognisable church structures and systems of worship of one GOD in the trinity of the father, son and Holy spirit.

##### Origin of CAN

The origin of C.A.N date back to 27th August 1976. When the federal military government under general Obasanjo invited several church leaders from different denominations to Lagos to hold a discussion with them on the national pledge and situation of national flag which government intend to introduce into primary and secondary schools.

Immediately after this meeting they decided to meet in another location close by to discuss on issues concerning them. The meeting was held at Catholic secretariat, opposite race course bus stop. At that meeting, the decision to form an organisation that will provide a forum where they would regularly meet together and take joint action on vital matter especially on issues which affect the Christian faith and the general welfare of Nigeria were reached.

##### AIMS OF CAN

1. They serves as basis of response to the unity of the church
2. To promote understanding, peace and unity among the various people
3. To act as a liaison committee by means of which it's members church can consult
4. To act as watch person of the spiritual and moral welfare of the nation

### WEEK 2

#### TOPIC: NIGERIA FELLOWSHIP OF EVANGELICAL STUDENTS NIFES

It is an interdenominational Christian campus movement in Nigeria. It is an indigenous, non governmental and interdenominational organisation of evangelical Christian students in Nigeria tertiary institutions. They reach out to student through small group, bible studies, evangelism, prayers meeting, large group meeting, biblical discipline, life changing leadership training conference

## AIMS OF NIFES

- i. It is aimed at promoting and encouraging evangelism, discipline and mission among Christians
- ii. NIFES exist to reach out to students through evangelism and discipleship training
- iii. To mobilise them upon graduation to impact campus, church and society at large

NIFES was founded in

## Week 3

Topic: UNITY AMONG CHRISTIANS (NABIS)

NIGERIA ASSOCIATION BIBLICAL STUDIES (NABIS)

This association came into existence in 1985 in order to fulfill the desire of lecturers in tertiary institutions in Nigeria to have an organisation where they will discuss, exchange ideas and interpret the scripture for clearer understanding.

## AIMS OF NABIS

1. It seeks to provide a forum for discussion and exchange of information and ideas on current research in Africa
2. It aims also includes relating biblical interpretation of to life situation in Africa.
3. It provides platform for mutual support
4. In addition to its academic pursuit, NABIS also deals with general situation affecting Christianity and its practice.

## WEEK 4

## # INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHRISTIAN GROUPS AND THEIR ACTIVITIES

Interdenominational Christian groups are groups of Christians from different denominations coming together to promote oneness in Christ and collaborate on spiritual activities. These groups are non-denominational and usually have members from different churches and Christian backgrounds.

There are various interdenominational Christian groups in Nigeria and they all have different activities they carry out to spread the gospel and promote Christian unity. Some of these activities include:

- **Mission Outreaches:** Interdenominational Christian groups actively engage in mission outreaches to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ to remote areas and people who have not yet heard the good news. These mission outreaches involve preaching, evangelism, and providing humanitarian assistance to the less privileged.
- **Bible Study and Discipleship:** These groups also place emphasis on teaching and studying the Bible to deepen the understanding of members and help them grow spiritually. They also offer discipleship programs to mentor and guide new believers in their Christian journey.
- **Prayer Meetings and Retreats:** Interdenominational Christian groups value corporate prayer and often have regular prayer meetings and retreats for members to come together and intercede for the nation, church, and personal needs.
- **Fellowship and Social Events:** To promote fellowship and unity among members, these groups organize social events such as seminars, conferences, concerts, and picnics. These events provide opportunities for members to connect with each other, build relationships and enjoy Christian fellowship.
- **Community Service and Charity Work:** Interdenominational groups also carry out community service projects and charity work to reach out to the less privileged and demonstrate Christ's love through practical means. These activities include providing food, clothing, and education to the needy, and offering support to widows, orphans, and the elderly.

WEEK 5

TOPIC : CHRISTIAN GIVING PHIL 4:14

Will distribute

## # Christians Giving

In the Christian religion, giving is a fundamental aspect of faith. It is the act of offering something willingly without expecting anything in return. For Christians, giving reflects their belief and shows their commitment to their faith.

### ### Understanding Giving

Giving is not only about material possessions - it is also about giving one's time, talents, and service. It is an expression of generosity, compassion, and kindness. As Christians, we believe that every person is created in the image of God and therefore every person should be treated with respect and love. By giving, we are imitating God's own giving nature.

### ### Biblical Teachings

The Bible has numerous teachings on giving. In 2 Corinthians 9:7, it says, "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." This verse illustrates that giving should come from the heart and should not be done out of obligation. In Luke 6:38, it says, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." This verse shows that when we give, we are also blessed in return.

### ### Importance of Giving

Giving is a crucial part of Christian faith because it helps build a strong relationship with God and with others. It also helps us develop empathy and compassion for those in need. Jesus himself led by example in giving, as seen in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." This verse shows the ultimate act of giving through the sacrifice of Jesus for the salvation of humanity.

## ## Key Takeaways

- Giving is a fundamental aspect of faith in Christianity

- It is an act of generosity, compassion, and kindness
- Giving should come from the heart and not be done out of obligation
- The Bible has teachings on the importance of giving
- Giving helps build a strong relationship with God and with others
- Jesus is the ultimate example of giving through His sacrifice for the salvation of humanity.

## WEEK 6

### Topic Teaching that foster unity

#### # Notes on Teaching that will Foster Unity

##### # Introduction

We live in a world that is becoming increasingly divided. As Christians, it is our responsibility to promote unity and love among all people, regardless of their differences. In James 2:2-13, we are given guidelines on how we can teach and promote unity among believers.

##### # Context

In this passage, James is addressing a common problem in the early church - favoritism and discrimination based on social status. Some were showing special treatment to the rich while neglecting the poor. James reminds us that as believers, we are to treat everyone with equality and love.

##### # Importance of Unity

Unity is essential in the body of Christ. It creates a sense of belonging, helps us to build strong

relationships, and promotes peace. When we are united, we can better fulfill our purpose as the church, which is to spread the love of Christ and make disciples.

### # The Danger of Prejudice

In verses 2-4, James warns against showing favoritism and discrimination. He reminds us that this behavior goes against the love and unity that God desires for his people. Prejudice not only harms relationships but also goes against God's commandment to love one another as ourselves.

### # Love Your Neighbor as Yourself

In verses 8-9, James quotes Jesus' words in Mark 12:31, "Love your neighbor as yourself." This is the key to promoting unity among believers. We are to love each other as we love ourselves, regardless of our differences. This means showing kindness, compassion, and respect to everyone, regardless of their social status, race, or background.

### # The Royal Law

In verse 12, James calls the commandment to love your neighbor as yourself the "royal law." This means that it is the highest and most important law, higher even than the Old Testament laws and rituals. As believers, we are to follow this commandment above all else.

us strive to create a united, loving community within the body of Christ.

## WEEK 7

Topic: Paul's teaching on humility

### #Paul's Teaching on Humility

In this chapter, we will be looking at 1 Peter 5:5-11 where Apostle Paul teaches us about humility. As Christians, humility is one of the virtues that we should strive for. In this passage, we are given practical steps on how to cultivate humility in our lives.

Firstly, Paul reminds us to submit to our elders. This means showing respect and obedience towards those who are in authority over us. In today's world, this can be seen as counter-cultural as we are encouraged to speak up and challenge authority. However, as Christians, we must always remember that God has placed these leaders in our lives for a reason and we should submit to them in humility.

Secondly, we are told to clothe ourselves with humility towards one another. This means treating others with kindness, compassion, and gentleness. We should not think of ourselves as better than others, but instead, we should strive to serve others and put their needs before our own. This may require us to humble ourselves and apologize when we are in the wrong.

Next, Paul reminds us to humble ourselves under God's mighty hand. This requires us to acknowledge our dependence on God and surrender our lives to His will. It takes humility to admit that we are weak and in need of God's strength and guidance. When we humble ourselves before God, He will lift us up in due time.

Finally, we are warned to be vigilant against the devil who is always seeking to devour us. The devil often uses pride to lure us away from God. When we are humble, we are less susceptible to the enemy's attacks. We should also remember that we have brothers and sisters in Christ who are going through similar struggles, and we should stand firm together against the devil.

In conclusion, through this passage, Paul reminds us of the importance of humility in our walk with Christ. We should submit to our elders, clothe ourselves with humility, humble ourselves under God's hand, and be vigilant against the devil. Let us always strive to cultivate humility in our lives and seek guidance from the Holy Spirit to help us.

WEEK 8

TOPIC : IMPARTIALITY JAMES 2:1-13

James 2: 1- 13 provides insight into impartiality, a key Christian religious value. Being impartial is treating all individuals with equal respect and courtesy, regardless of their wealth or status. Through this chapter, we learn that impartiality is central to living a Christian life.

Paul starts the chapter by warning against favoritism. He explains how it is wrong to treat someone with wealth and status better than someone without. As Christians, we should not show favoritism and should treat everyone with love and respect.

The story of the rich man and the poor beggar in verse 3- 7 highlights the danger of partiality. The rich man is treated with special attention, while the poor man is ignored. However, in God's eyes, the poor man is just as important as the rich man. This shows that all individuals are equal in God's eyes and should be treated as such.

In verse 8- 11, Paul reminds us that loving our neighbors as ourselves is the second greatest commandment, after loving God. This means treating others the way we would want to be treated. If we show partiality, we are not following this commandment and are in the wrong.

The final verses, 12- 13, remind us that we will be judged by the same standard that we judge others. If we show partiality and judge others unfairly, then we will be judged by God in the same way. Therefore, as Christians, we must strive to be impartial and treat all individuals with love and respect.

**\*\*Important Keywords:\*\***

- Impartiality: treating all individuals with equal respect and courtesy regardless of their wealth or status.
- Favoritism: showing preference towards someone based on their wealth or status.
- Love: the second greatest commandment in Christianity, treating others the way we want to be treated.
- Judgment: will be judged by God by the same standard that we judge others.



## WEEK 9

### Topic : FORGIVENESS, PAUL'S TEACHING ON FORGIVENESS

Christian Religious Studies: Notes on `Forgiveness` Level: Year 9

#### # Introduction

In this note, we will be focusing on the topic of Forgiveness, specifically on Paul's teaching on forgiveness. Forgiveness is an important aspect of Christian life as it represents God's forgiveness towards us and teaches us how to love and forgive others.

#### # Definition of Forgiveness

Forgiveness can be defined as the act of pardoning or setting aside resentment, anger, revenge, or an act of compassion for someone who has wronged or hurt you. Forgiveness is not forgetting the hurt or wrong done to you but rather choosing to let go of the negative feelings and moving on.

#### # Paul's Teachings on Forgiveness

The apostle Paul, in his teachings, emphasizes the importance of forgiveness in the Christian life. He reminds us of God's forgiveness and how we should imitate God's forgiving nature. In Colossians 3:13, Paul says, "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

#### # The Parable of the Unmerciful Servant

In Matthew 18:21-35, Jesus tells the parable of the unmerciful servant to show the importance of forgiveness. In this parable, a servant owed his master a large sum of money and was unable

to pay it back. The master, in compassion, forgave the debt. However, the servant, who was forgiven, refused to forgive a fellow servant who owed him a smaller amount. This parable shows how God has forgiven us a great debt, and we should, in turn, forgive others.

### # Why Should We Forgive?

Not only does God command us to forgive, but there are also several benefits of forgiveness. Forgiveness brings healing and restoration in relationships, helps us to release negative emotions, and promotes peace and unity. It also allows us to imitate God's love and mercy and draws us closer to Him.

## WEEK 10

### Topic: CHRISTIAN LIVING IN THE COMMUNITY

### # Christian Living in the Community

#### Introduction

In this lesson, we will learn about Christian living and how it is practiced within the community. As Christians, we are called to be a light in the world and to serve and love those around us. Our actions and behavior should reflect the teachings of the Bible in order for us to be good representatives of Christ in the community.

#### What is Christian Living?

Christian living refers to the way of life and behavior of a person who follows the teachings of Christianity. It involves living according to the principles and values taught in the Bible, such as love, compassion, forgiveness, and humility.

## Why is Christian Living Important?

Christian living is important because it allows us to show the world what it means to be a follower of Christ. It is an opportunity for us to spread the message of the Gospel and be a shining example of God's love to others. When we live according to Christian principles, we are also fulfilling God's will for our lives.

## How to Practice Christian Living in the Community

There are many ways in which we can practice Christian living in our community:

1. Love and serve others: Jesus taught us to love our neighbors as ourselves. This means showing love, kindness, and compassion to those around us, even those who may not be easy to love.
2. Be a peacemaker: Christians are called to be peacemakers and to actively work towards promoting peace and unity within the community.
3. Share the gospel: As Christians, we are called to share the good news of Jesus with others. By sharing our faith, we can bring others to know and experience God's love.
4. Be humble and forgiving: The Bible teaches us to be humble and to forgive others as we have been forgiven by God. This means letting go of grudges and showing grace and mercy to others.
5. Be a good steward: Christians believe that everything we have belongs to God and we are called to be good stewards of His blessings. This includes taking care of the environment, being responsible with our resources, and helping those in need.

## Key Takeaways

- Christian living is the way of life and behavior of a person who follows the teachings of Christianity.
- It is important because it allows us to be good representatives of Christ and fulfill God's will for our lives.
- We can practice Christian living by loving and serving others, being a peacemaker, sharing the gospel, being humble and forgiving, and being good stewards.