From the desk of Editor - In - Chief

RECONNECT TO RECOVER ALL

challenge of COVID-19 and has turned what was usually normal to an abnormality. The human, economic, social losses, and other losses have destabilised the global order. As our country, Nigeria is still counting its COVID-19 losses, the #EndSARS protests suddenly erupted and individuals, corporate bodies and the government have lost many things to the riot that followed the protests.

The account of David and his men in 1 Samuel 30:1-19 was nothing different from our current experiences. David and his soldiers would have thought that returning from a victorious battle would afford them the opportunity to relax and enjoy the spoils of war. But alas, they had their city - Ziklag invaded and burnt, and their women and children were taken captives. Victory gone sour!

The word 'recover' signifies that there had been a loss. The loss could be financial, material, spiritual, etc. and the loss could arise from not being able to actualise one's destiny. However, it may be seen, it is important to note that suffering a loss is not new. Human's first and biggest loss was in the Garden of Eden, when Adam and Eve lost their human essence after disobeying God. They were not meant to die but for sin. Adam and Eve lost their confidence, dignity and fellowship with God. The ripple effect of their loss is still being felt today. The harrowing experiences of wars, terrorism, banditry, economic downturn, etc. across nations of the earth are offshoot of human disconnection from

In the Bible passage being considered (1 Samuel 30:1 - 19), David and his men suffered a huge loss. Fighting a battle on its own comes with some forms of losses ranging from selfdeprivation to loss of lives and properties. War has its collateral

he world has been damages. Returning from war to grappling with the discover that one's wife and children have been taken its associated losses. Global captives, among other war spoils experience from the pandemic the captors have taken, will leave a leader devastated. But David reconnected to God and (in 1 Samuel 30:8) he was instructed to pursue and recover all. He acted on God's Word and recovered all that was lost.

> What have you lost during this pandemic and the #EndSARS protest occasioned by long-term leadership neglect, impudence and ineptitude? I urge you to reconnect to God like David did, and you will overcome and regain all that you have lost in Jesus'

Yes, the year is rounding off and it may seem all hope is lost, but that is with man. With God, all things are possible. All you need is to seek God in all you do, listen to Him and obey His commands. If you adhere strictly to His guidance, you will not just recover, you will recover with multiple increase.

Jesus gave up His place in heaven to come into the world to help mankind reconnect to God. If Jesus did not choose to give up his glory in heaven to take our place on the cross, no human soul would have been saved. As we approach Christmas, you can recover all you have lost by connecting or reconnecting to your Creator. Relying on human leaders for solutions at a time like this may lead to disappointment.

Reconnect to God through Christ and He will show you where and how to recover all you have lost. You can surely recover all!

I wish you a blessed Christmas and fruitful new year in advance in Jesus' name.

Dare Ajiboye



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Kwara Area maintains its lead

wara Area has again Kwara and Ogbomoso Areas distribution figure of 51,004 and performance award in fund- position, while Oyo Area came distribution Kwara Area raising for year 2019.

award since 2015 except in 2008 when it was won by Rivers/Bayelsa Area, contributed a total sum of Oyo Area came first in Life ? 4,219,050, while Ogbomoso Area came third having contributed the sum of N300,000.

The General Secretary, Dr Dare Oyo Area distributed 92,137 Ajiboye, commended the leadership of the Areas particularly the first three for their outstanding performances.

maintained its lead as she contributed same amount for Bible Kwara which distributed 39,407 again won the overall best. Week Badge and had a tie for first copies. Furthermore, in Calendar lead in Special Membership others followed by Ogbomoso The Area, which has won this registration followed by which distributed 6,000 and Ondo Ogbomoso and Osun Area 1.

Membership registration followed Area which came second by Ondo and Borno/Yobe. Osun contributed N2,440,350. Oyo Area 1 took first position in Associate Membership registration followed by Oke-N2,167,860. Each of the Areas Ogun and Oyo Area. For Associate has an annual target of Membership registration, Osun Area 1 took the lead followed by Oke-Ogun and Oyo Area.

> copies of the Bible to emerge the first position followed by Oke-Ogun with the Scripture

third. Kwara Area also took the distributed 12,500 copies to lead Area with a distribution figure of 5,950 copies.



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ALONE WITH GOD

Below are Bible portions which we believe will be useful for your meditation.

NOVEMBER 2020	DECEMBER 2020	JANUARY 2020
1. Deuteronomy	1. Psalm 119:165	1. 2 Corinthians 415
29:14-15	2. Isaiah 26:3	2. 1 Chronicles 16:34
2. Psalm 1:2	3. Isaiah 46:18	3. Ephesians 5:19
3. Matthew 26:28	4. Ezekiel 34:25	4. Psalm 95:2-3
4. Luke 22:29	5. Galatians 1:3	5. Psalm 108:8-9
5. Romans 11:17	6. Galatians 5:22-23	6. Colossians 3:17
6. 1 Corinthians 11:25	7. Romans 8:6	7. 1 Corinthians 9:10
7. 2 Corinthians 3:6	8. Romans 14:17	8. Psalm 100:4
8. Hebrew 7:22	9. Job 22:21	9. Psalm 9:1
9. Hebrew 9:15	10. Psalm 34:14	10. Psalm 7:17
10. Hebrews 10:24	11. Colossians 3:15	11. Psalm 28:7
11. Exodus 12:13	12. 1 Peter 3:11	12. Colossians 3:16-17
12. Zechariah 13:1	13. Matthew 5:9	13. Colossians 3:15
13. John 6:55-56	14. Romans 14:19	14. 1 Chronicles 29:13
14. Romans 3:25	15. Genesis 8:21	15. 2 Chronicles 5:13
15. Romans 5:9	16. Genesis 9:16	16. Colossians 4:2
16. 1 Corinthians 10:16	17. Genesis 17:7	17. Hebrews 13:15
17. Ephesians 1:7	18. Psalm 74:20	18. Jeremiah 30:19
18. Ephesians 2:13	19. Psalm 89:34	19. Psalm 50:14
19. Colossians 1:13-14	20. Isaiah 54:10	20. Psalm 69:30
20. Hebrews 1:3	21. Psalm 111:9	21. Lamentations 3:22-23
21. Hebrews 9:22	22. Isaiah 55:3	22. 1 Corinthians 1:4-5
22. Hebrews 9:14	23. Isaiah 61:8	23. 2 Corinthians 4:15-16
23. Hebrews 10:19	24. Jeremiah 33:7	24. 2 Corinthians 9:11-12
24. Hebrews 10:29	25. Ezekiel 16:60	25. Ephesians 1:15-16
25. Hebrews 12:24	26. Ezekiel 37:28	26. 1 Timothy 4:4-5
26. Hebrews 13:12	27. Galatians 2:17	27. Psalm 106:1
27. 1 Peter 1:2	28. Genesis 17:2	28. Isaiah 12:4
28. 1 Peter 1:18-19	29. Numbers 25:12-13	29. Jeremiah 33:11
29. 1 John 1:7	30. Psalm 89:28	30. 1 Thessalonians 5:18
30. 1 John 5:6	31. Isaiah 59:21	31. Jeremiah 5:248
		•

Ezeh, Akindele, others receive long service award



receptionist, Mrs. Edith Eze; Manager, Publishing, Pastor Oluwafemi Akindele: and five other members of staff have received the BSN Long Service award.

Mrs. Ezeh has served for 20 years, while Pastor Akindele has served 15 years. The Senior Manager Publishing, Olugbenga Oludaisi; Youth/Programmes Officer, Miss Olayinka Moka; Territorial Sales Officer, Mr. Olawale Lateef; Confidential Secretary, Mrs. Sylvia Ogolowa and Territorial Sales Assistant, Mr. Samson Abah, have all served for 10 years each.

BSN President charges Leadership Academy graduates to prove their callings



understand the dynamics of o t h e r departments and embrace it as the operating environment is now volatile, uncertain complex, ambiguous and disruptive," Dr Ajiboye counselled.

"You must

He also enjoined

the 2020 Leadership Academy graduates, who were christened "The game changers" that they must always be on top of their game if they would indeed change the game.

He argued that the desired change must begin with them and extend to their subordinates, supervisors and everyone around them, adding that they must also be spiritual.

ev Dr Olubunmi Timothy Banwo, President, The Bible Society of Nigeria (BSN), who was chairman of the second graduation ceremony of the Society's Leadership Academy, which was held recently in Lagos, has encouraged graduates of the academy to prove their callings.

He urged the 15 graduands to put to good use all that they learnt during their training, tasking them on the need to take charge of their respective areas of assignments.

He stressed the need for them to be on top in their core activities, adding that they should act according to their name- "Game

"Be diligent in all you do and

make full proof of your callings

and engagement as it is written in

Dr Dare Ajiboye, General

Secretary, the BSN and Lead

Faculty, Leadership Academy,

also told the graduands to reflect

the knowledge they have gained

Proverbs," Rev Banwo said.

Changers" and the change should be positive.

in their attitudes.

Bible Society inaugurates new Areas

The Bible Society of Nigeria has The approval to create the two new Areas Osun States.

The new areas are Oyo Area 2 carved out Lagos in August 2020. of the present Oyo Area 1 and Ijesa Area With the new Areas, BSN now has 31 fullcarved out from Osun Area 1. The Oyo fledged Areas and nine Associate Areas Area 2 was inaugurated on October making a total of 40 Areas across the 28, while Ijesa Area was inaugurated on country. October 29.

inaugurated two new Areas in Oyo and was granted at the National Board Meeting of the Society which took place in



Jacob, Obazee, Solomon join Bible Society family







Obazee and Joseph Solomon have joined the family of The Bible Society of Nigeria as staff members.

While Mr. Jacob, who obtained HND Bus Admin/Management from Federal Polytechnic,

Messrs Sunday Jacob, Martins Bida, was employed as General Manager, Bible Guest House Research & Development Centre, Martins Obazee and Joseph Solomon joined The Bible Society of Nigeria as Drivers.

Mr. Solomon

SOWER OCTOBER - DECEMBER, 2020

Healthy Living

Medicinal Properties of Orange, Tangerine

itrus is most commonly thought of as a good source of vitamin C. However, like most other whole foods, citrus fruits also contain an impressive list of other essential nutrients, including both glycaemic and nonglycaemic carbohydrate (sugars and fibre), potassium, folate, calcium, thiamin, niacin, vitamin B₆, phosphorus, magnesium, copper, riboflavin, pantothenic acid and a variety of phytochemicals.

Citrus contains no fat or sodium and being a plant food, no cholesterol.

The average energy value of excess body weight.

oranges. Pasteurized orange belief. juice has lost most of its health Generally, synthetic vitamins benefits.

juice immediately after wall because they are not squeezing it in order to obtain combined with active transporter full health benefits. Eating the molecules that are required to orange with the fiber is even help them pass through the walls better.

There is considerable evidence that citrus foods may help reduce the risk, or retard the progression, of several serious diseases and disorders such as cardiovascular diseases, Neural Tube Defects, cancer, Anaemia, Cataracts, etc.

* All citrus fruits share some

common traits. Citrus fruits are loaded with vitamin C, which, combined with bioflavonoids:

- * Strengthen capillaries and blood vessels,
- * Help wounds to heal faster,
- * Have cancer-fighting properties. Reduce the incidence of mouth sores and gum bleeding,
- * Help the body fight colds,
- * Increase anti-viral, antiallergy, and anti-inflammatory activities.

are squeezed or juiced. So, you C). fresh citrus is also low, which can must drink it immediately. All the be very important for consumers natural vitamin C in packaged concerned about putting on orange juices are gone by the time it is sold to you. This is why Drinking pasteurized Orange they fortify with synthetic vitamin Juice bought from the store is not C. Synthetic is not the same as the same as eating fresh natural, contrary to popular

find it difficult to penetrate the It is best to drink fresh orange intestinal wall and the cellular of the intestine and the cells. According to Dr. Yoshihide Hagiwara, "In raw vegetables, minerals are bonded in an organic form to enzymes, proteins, amino acids and sugars." This makes minerals from raw vegetables more bioavailable than synthetic varieties.

Oranges are also rich in vitamin B complex, potassium, zinc, and phosphorus.

Tangerine is good in warding off the common cold.

Do not juice orange, tangerine, and grapefruit with the skin. They are difficult to digest and can cause problems in the colorectal area. The skin of lemon and lime are however digestible.

The white rind of citrus fruits is the storehouse of vitamin C and bioflavonoids (named vitamin P by the late Hungarian Nobel The vitamin C in citrus fruits Prize Winner Dr. Albert Szentbegin to dissipate soon after they Gyorgyi who discovered vitamin

> Citrus fruits are remarkable for their balanced combination of anti-cancer substances: vitamin C, flavonoids, limonoids, and



to the fore - Ernest Ebi

Therefore, it gave me a unique opportunity to reflect on my life's journey. How God protected and guided me. It was a humbling experience.

The lockdown was compulsory holiday for everybody to sit down and reflect on what he / she has done thus far. I think for people that are still not sure about eternity, the lockdown brought it to the fore that there is

God who controls this universe.

experience with us?

A lot of people met Christ when the battle of life became fierce, but that is been a man after God's heart, and I and building for posterity. am not one to take the mercy of God for granted. Nevertheless, I can say I got born-again in November 1993. I gave my life to Christ at the Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship in the residence of late Fred Brume.

believing church.

What is it like to chair a bank as a Not really. This business is owned by we operate in Nigeria?

I must confess that It is very My foray into the Agric sector was challenging. Business generally in Nigeria is not a walk in the park. One needs the grace of God to be able to environment.

opportune to serve in a privileged the value proposition of the company. position, I ask myself these questions: What is my mission? Am I going for

the glamour or to add value? How do I

Over the years, we have introduced initiatives that led to the positive

> transformation of the company. We also achieved our aim of building a company with strong corporate governance culture and strong fundamentals.

So, what does the Bible mean to you?

My Bible is everything. It is my inspiration, my source encouragement, my daily companion, and my life-guide.

Lastly, learning how to declare God's word over a situation is the most

powerful form of prayer and it is something every Christian must learn. Which of the versions of the Bible do you prefer?

the occasion and purpose. For my prayers I use the NKJV or KJV. Vision, focus, consistency, energy and However, for bible studies and ministration, I use the NIV or Amplified version.

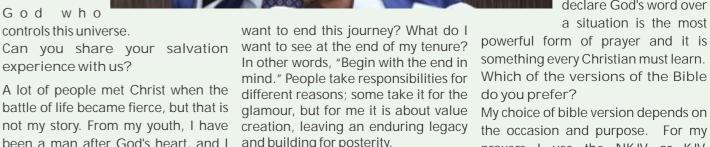
What is your best memory verse?

I often pray with scriptures and I love to recite memory verses but I am fascinated by what God told Moses in Exodus 33 verse 19 which Paul quoted in Romans 9:15, "I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion".

I feel that scripture is the story of my life because I see God's mercies in everything that I do.

How will you summarize your experience in the last 70 years in a sentence?

Amazing grace! We never had to struggle for anything as God surrounded us with mercy and favour.



impact are the principles that defined the roles I played in the CBN, Fidelity Bank, Diamond Bank and all the places that I have been privileged to serve.

It was at the Full Gospel As somebody who has been in the Businessmen's Fellowship that I financial system all his life, people started to study the Bible and mediate will just think it is natural for you on the Word of God. Soon after I gave to set up an investment company my life to Christ, I realized that to grow or an advisory consultancy in in faith, I needed to join a Bible- finance. Why did you choose to go into agriculture?

Christian in a perverse system that my friend Mr. Zach Chaim - I am the chairman and not a shareholder.

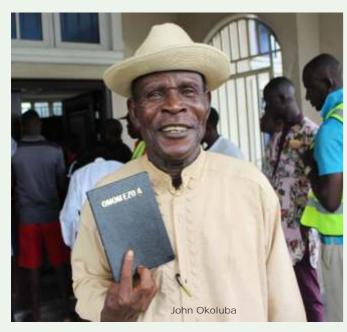
accidental. When I retired from the Central Bank, Mr. Chaim invited me to serve as the chairman of the board of operate effectively in this his company. His goal was to build a strong organization with good Leading a bank requires divine corporate governance. I accepted the quidance and wisdom. Anytime I am offer because I was impressed with

SOWER OCTOBER - DECEMBER, 2020

Ogbia, Epie people joyfully welcome New Testaments • With the Ogbia Bible, we have reached promised land, says Okolubo

he people of Ogbia and Epie in Bayelsa State have joyfully received the New Testaments in their mother tongues.

The dedication of the two NTs, on September 22 and 23, 2020 respectively, were characterised with excitement, praises to God and indeed joyful celebrations.



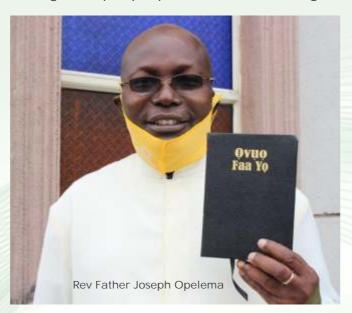
One of the beneficiaries of the Ogbia NT, John Okolubo expressed joy on receiving a copy of the NT. "I am excited and love what is happening here today, the dedication of the Ogbia NT. That is why I insisted I must come and see things for myself. I am very happy to have received a copy of the NT," he says adding that it will help revive the Ogbia Language which was already dying. Without the Bible, we were like a people without the presence of God, but with this NT, we have left Egypt and are now in the promised land.

Mr. Okolubo, who is a retired teacher, said that the Ogbia people would have a better understanding of the Word God in their mother tongue. He is hopeful that the NT would transform the lives of the people.

Revered Aaron Mondebo of the Diocese of Ogbia [Anglican Communion] said that making the NT available in the local language would make preaching of the gospel easy as the Word of God would be taught in their mother tongue. According to him, this would help the people understand the Word of God better and there would be less need for interpreters.



Miss Abraham Montgomery who received the Epie NT says, "I am very excited. I have been praying and expecting this day. The Urhobos and people of other languages in our neighbouring state have the Bible in their mother tongue. I am happy we now have ours. It is no longer a wish or a dream, but a reality. Our Pastors can now preach and conduct Bible study in our language. The Vicar General of Catholic Diocese of Bomadi, Rev Father Joseph Opelema, who was excited about Epie NT said that it was a sign that the work of evangelisation was taking root among the Epie people. "All we are doing as



Full Bible completed in American Sign Language

original texts in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek was completed September 2020. ASL is the



Robert Briggs President, American Bible Society

decade-long project to mother tongue of 408,000 Deaf accurately conveys biblical truth into American Sign other countries and is the only Christian denominations. Language (ASL) from the one of the world's 400 sign languages with the full Bible¹

> yielded the New Testament in adapted its approach several 2004, was led by Deaf Missions, times to make the most of new with the support of the community opportunities to break down the of Christian Bible translation barriers preventing Deaf people agencies joining together in the from accessing the Bible. Their Forum of Bible Agencies experience is helping other sign International (FOBAI), including language translation projects, American Bible Society.

It was carried out by a team of more than 50 people, most of whom use ASL as their first language, with the help of eminent theologians and exegetes from different Christian confessions. This close collaboration has ensured that the American Sign Language Version Bible (in video format) is easy to understand, faithfully and

translate the whole Bible people in the US and several and is accepted by all major

Over the many years of the translation project, as technology The translation work, which rapidly developed, the team and the ASLV Bible will be used as a resource for sign language Scripture translation around the

> Based on a news report by Deaf Missions and American Bible Society.

> https://ubscommunity.org/blog/2020/10/09/ful I-bible-completed-in-american-sign-language/

Abayomi-Olsen retires from Bible Guest House



he Lagos Guest House guests encouraged them to always Manager, Mrs. Victoria Abayomi-Olsen, has voluntarily retired from the service of Bible Guest House Research & Development Centre after 17 years of meritorious service.

Speaking at a sendoff party organised in her honour, the Board Chair of Bible Guest House, Dr. Dare Ajiboye, joined others who spoke at the occasion to extol her virtue of integrity, care, friendly disposition, and absolute dependence on God. Dr. Ajiboye prayed that God would prosper her future endeavours and wished her well in all her undertaking.

A Director of the Guest House, Mr. Samuel Sanusi, who exhorted the

show gratitude to God for his greatness, endless mercies, abiding presence, and redemptive power. Responding, Mrs. Abayomi-Olsen, who joined the organisation in 2003, thanked the Management for the opportunity to serve and the show of love received from the quests and staff.

Prayer for Areas

- 1. Let us thank God for bringing us
- 2. Pray that God will protect our
- 3. Pray that God will take away the

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In what **CONDITION**would you like your **Property** to be after you have gone?

Have you really considered what may happen to the property you laboured for?

Over the years, you worked hard to build and acquire your assets. Knowing the worth and value of these property, you maintained them constantly so as not to lose their market value. Unfortunately, experience has shown that most of the property left behind soon dilapidate or are wasted by the people whom such are entrusted into their care.

One of the surest ways to guarantee that your property and asset will remain, long after you have gone, is



Your property may be in this state if not bequeathed to a reputable organization like The Bible Society of Nigeria

If bequeathed to an organization like The Bible Society of Nigeria it will remain like this

for a long time

For enquiries, please call 08159094116 or email: info@biblesociety-nigeria.org.

You can also visit our website: www.biblesociety-nigeria.org

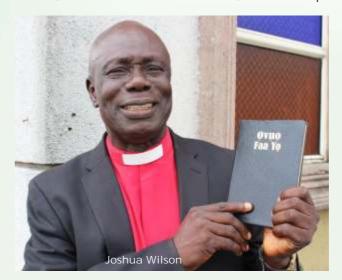


to bequeath it as a legacy to an organization that can take care of it. Such an organization is The Bible Society of Nigeria.

For over 50 years, we have remained in the service of making the Word of God available to Nigerians through Bible translation, publishing, distribution and organizing lifetransforming programmes. So far, we have the complete Bible in 26 Nigerian Languages and are at the m o m e n t translating/revising the Bible in over 8 Nigerian Languages at the cost of N40 million per language. The money realized from such charitable bequests including shares will help us continue the good work of making the WORD of God available, affordable and FREE for the less privileged. We therefore encourage you to partner with God by bequeathing any of your assets to The Bible Society of Nigeria.

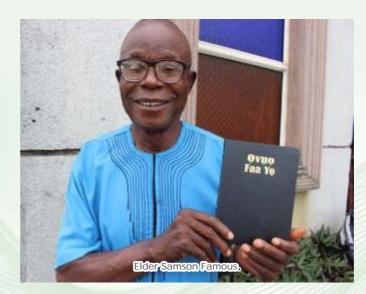
Christians is centered on the Word of God. Giving us the NT in our mother tongue is a welcome development. Certainly, it will bring people closer to God because they will be able to read and understand it. When we read the English Bible, it looks foreign to the people, but the people will see this Epie NT as their own." General Overseer of Triumphant Covenant Int'l

Church, Reverend Joshua Wilson, said the Epie



NT would help him as a preacher as he would preach with the NT in the mother tongue of his members, meaning that God would be speaking to them directly in their language. Reverend Wilson, who radiated joy and excitement, disclosed that his people had been looking forward to the NT, adding that it would help particularly the elderly and others who do not understand English Language.

Another recipient of the Epie NT, Elder Iwo Samson Famous: says, "I feel very good. As I receive this NT today, I am the happiest person. The Word of God is very important to me. We have been struggling with the English Bible. We thank God that anyone who reads the Epie New Testament now will understand it."





Speaking at the dedication of the NTs, The Bayelsa State Governor, Senator Douye Diri, commended The Bible Society of Nigeria for its leading role in Bible translation in the country.

At the Ogbia NT dedication, the Guest Speaker, Rev Dr. Peter Oduks said that the Ogbia NT would bring the truth about the Word of God to the people in their mother tongue, adding that it would give the Ogbia people a better understanding of the Word of God, while Bishop Patterson Kikile declared at the Epie NT dedication that, "Reading the Bible in one's mother tongue gives better understanding and has more impact than reading it in a foreign language."

The General Secretary/CEO, Dr Dare Ajiboye, disclosed that the Society had so far spent over ? 161.87 million on the Epie and Ogbia translation projects. He assured that with more funds the full Bible for Epie and Ogbia would be dedicated in less than three years and called for the total cooperation of both communities.

The high point of the dedications was the reading of the Scriptures from the Epie and Ogbia New Testament which was applauded by the hundreds of people in attendance.



liss Favour Ipagamo reading the Ogbia NT Mr. Torvie Makhere reading the Epie N

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PHOTO

BSN long service award



Dr Dare Ajiboye, General Secretary/CEO, the BSN (L) presenting a long service award to Pastor Olugbenga Oludaisi, Senior Manager, Publishing



Dr Dare Ajiboye (L) presenting a long service award to Pastor Olufemi Akindele, Manager, Publishing



Dr Dare Ajiboye (L) presenting a long service award to Miss Olayinka Moka, Youth and Programmes Officer



Dr Dare Ajiboye (L) presenting a long service award to Mrs Sylvia Ogolowa, Confidential Secretary



Dr Dare Ajiboye (L) presenting a long service award to Mr Samson Abah, Territorial Sales Assistant



Rev Dr Olubunmi T. Banwo, President, the BSN (front row: 4th from Left) with faculties and graduates of the Society's Leadership Academy during their graduation ceremony recently held in Lagos



Pastor Paul Abiala, former Manager, Distribution, Rev Benjamin Matawal, former Hausa Translator (3rd and 4th left) and members of their families during their send-off party in Lagos



Group photo of End to End partners trained at Ilaro recently



Dr Dare Ajiboye (middle front row), Trauma Healing Facilitator, Pastor (Mrs) Abosede Damilare (2nd left front row) and participants at the Audio Trauma Healing training organised by the Society.



Chief of Staff to Bayelsa State Governor, Chief Benson Agadaga admiring a copy of Ogbia NT during its dedication



Hon. Treasurer of the BSN, Mr. Bolaji Adisa with his wife at his 60th birthday and retirement party



Deaconess Adedeji Ayobami writing a Bible verse in the WABFOG project

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