

RCCG SOD Year 1: Part Four. Know Yourself.

Now you know you are important to God, that you count in His plans, that he needs you, that He loves you, that Satan hates you and will love to destroy you, that satan will seek the help of your flesh to do you in, but that God promises you victory on a certain condition and that condition is obedience. What will you do now with this knowledge? You know so much about yourself now, what are you going to do with the information you already have?

#1 Do not give God a heartache

[Since God loves you](#) and He suffers when you do, the first thing you should do is to make up your mind that you will never cause Him any heartache again. In other words, you will live the rest of your life holy. Even if it is only because He loves you, if only because one day you are going to see him, if only because one day you are going to be like Him, that is enough to encourage you to make up your mind, that you will never annoy God again. When you sin, the punishment will come and when you suffer God suffers too.

So, in order that God will not suffer because of you, you should make up your mind that you will never sin again.

In John 3:3, the Bible says:



“And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself; even as he is pure”.

Any one who has hope of seeing God and becoming like God will purify himself even as God is pure.

in 1 John 5:1-3, the Bible says:

“Whosoever believeth `that Jesus is the Christ is born of God and everyone that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God , that we keep his commandments and his commandments are not grievous.”

Don't cause him heartache. Don't disobey him.

#2 Love God in return.

If God loves you so much, you should love in return. **In John 4:19 the Bible**

says: ‘We love him because he first loved us’.

He had already demonstrated his love. Let us love him in return.

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#3 Love yourself

You are advised to love yourself. Why ? Because whosoever God loves is worthy of the love of anybody else. If God loves you then you should love yourself. I am sure you will say ,”Who told you that I dont love myself?” If you love yourself , congratulations but there are some people who hate themselves. They show it in their actions. For example, there are people who smoke; I know such is not among you the disciples. I just want to give an example of people who hate themselves. It is written on cigarettes “smoking is injurious to your health” and yet they keep on smoking.

You say “Oh well, they are foolish people”. What about you? Many of you eat so much that you cannot pray at night.

Do you love yourself ?

Many of you talk so much that you cannot even keep your mouth shut and yet it is written **“in multitude of words there wanted not sin”**. and yet you keep on talking non-stop. You know the Bible says **“Pray without ceasing”** and you don’t pray. You know the Bible says study the word of God, meditate on it day and night then whatever you do will prosper. You don’t study the Bible , you dont meditate therein, how can you say yu love yourself ? When you know what

will bring prosperity to you , what will make you succeed and you refused to do it, how can you claim that you love yourself?

#4. Love others as you love yourself

It is only if you love yourself that you can love your neighbour. This is another reason why you must love yourself because the Bible says in **Matthew 22:39** , you are to love your neighbour like yourself , then your neighbour is in trouble. The elders have a saying. They say the one who can step on the hem of his own garment will tear that of his neighbour. So, God loves you , and you love yourself so that you have a standard for loving your neighbour.

As you love yourself , so you can love your neighbour. If God is truly your Father, then you must love others also because “Like Father, like son”. Your Daddy loves the whole world . You too must love the whole world.

Look at 1 John 4:7-8; 20-21. Verse 7-8 says:

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“Behold let us love one another for love is of God, and everyone that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God . He that loveth not knoweth not God, for God is love”.

So if you want to tell anyone that you are truly a child of God then you must love others.

#5 Don't' love occasionally

Make love your dwelling place. Make it your way of life.

in 1 John 4:16, the Bible says:

“And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love and he that dwelleth in God dwelleth in love and God is in him”

The Bible says dwell in love, make love your dwelling place everyday. Live inside love, dwell there.

#6 Demonstrate your love

Your Father loves actively, he shows his love. The Bible says in **John 3:16:**

“For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten son that whomsoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life”

Your Father demonstrated his love by actively giving, so you too must also love actively. You must demonstrate that you love by your actions.

Look at **1 John 3:11** and **18**, the Bible says:

“For this is the message, that ye heard from the beginning that we should love one another ..., my little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue, but in deed and in truth”.

Dont just say "I love". Demonstrate it. Learn to give. As a disciple of Jesus Christ, learn to give.

1 John 3:16-17 says:

"Hereby perceive we the love of God because He laid down his life for us and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whose hath this world's good and seeth his brother have need and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him , how dwelleth the love of God in Him?"

Love actively. Learn to do things the way your Father does it. Learn to give. You know yourself now. You know that you are special to God. You are important to His plans. He needs you and he loves you. Satan hates you. Satan wants to destroy you, he wants to use your flesh to destroy you. God says that He will give you victory all the time provided you obey him. They do something with the information you have already. Dont ever cause God heartache again.

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1. Dont ever sin again.
2. Love God in return.
3. Love yourself. If God loves you, you should love yourself also.
4. As you love yourself , love your neighbour accordingly.
5. if you are truly your Father's son, you must love others also.
6. Don't love occasionally, dwell in love. Let Love be your dwelling place.

Your father ;loves actively by giving , giving His best.Demonstrate your love also Begin to open your hands wide by helping others , by giving unto others and God will help you as you do so. Of course, it is going to take grace to do so. Ask for that grace now.

“THY GRACE OH LORD TO LOVE YOU, TO LOVE MYSELF , TO LOVE MY NEIGHBOUR AS MYSELF AND TO DEMONSTRATE THIS LOVE; FATHER GIVE UNTO ME”.

Talk to the Lord now and He will answer you.

Action Point

PS: I know you might agree with some of the points that I have raised in this article. You might not agree with some of the issues raised. Let me know your views about the topic discussed. We would appreciate it if you could drop your comment. Thanks in anticipation.

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