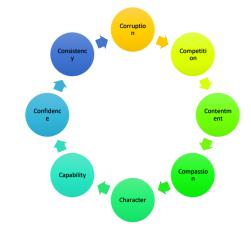
A MAN WHO LOVES IS THE ONE WHO CAN TEACH OTHERS ABOUT LOVE AND LEAD THEM TO THE WAY OF GOD.

THE UNIQUE 8C'S OF LIFE



DR. IBRAHIM ADESHOLA

The Unique 8C's of Life



It's deemed important for everyone to learn about the 8 C's of life before the world teaches us what it's not.

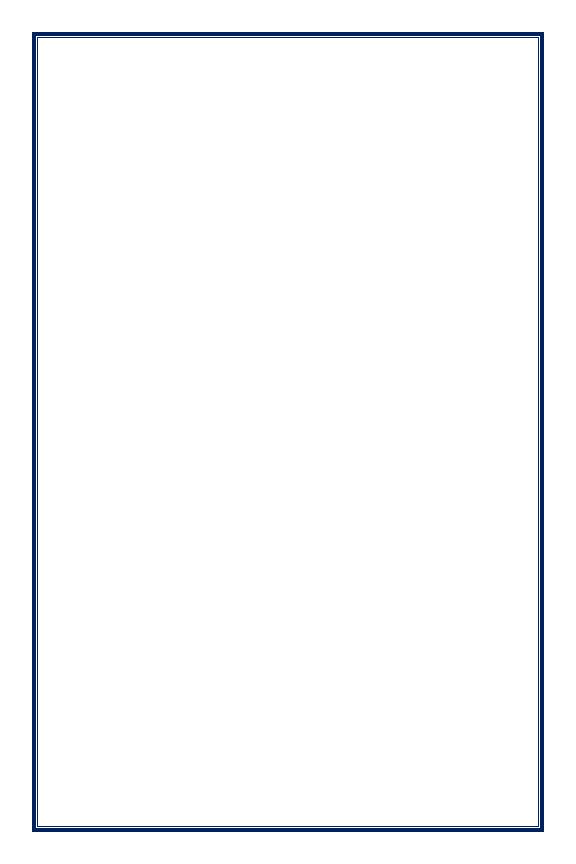
Dr. Ibrahim Adeshola

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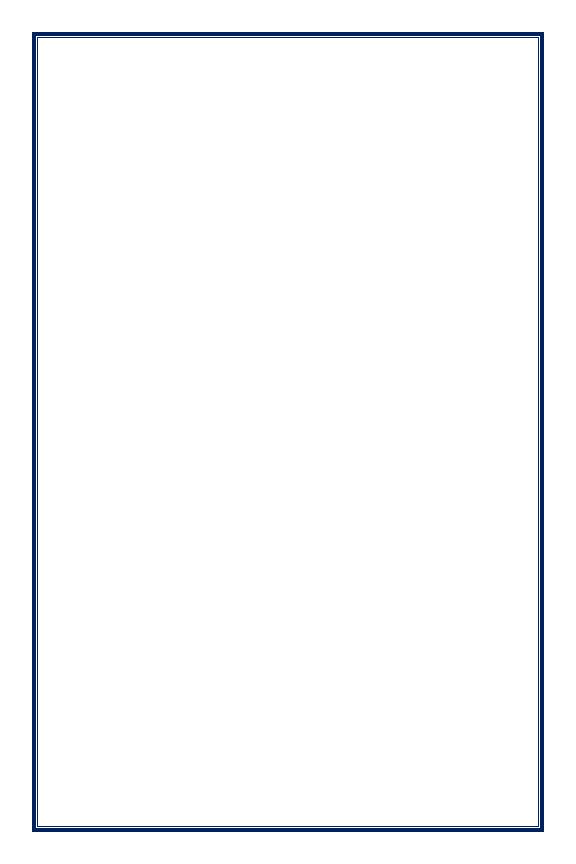
DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to Almighty God, who created all good things and blessed every soul to be fruitful in every aspect of our lives. It's by His spirit that we are inspired to do great and mighty things, and all glory be to the All-Knowing and All-Sufficient God who created the heavens and earth for our enjoyment.



CONTENTS

	Acknowledgments	i
1	Consistency	7
2	Contentment	9
3	Compassion	13
4	Capability	16
5	Corruption	18
6	Character	22
7	Confidence	25
8	Competition	28



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I, first of all, appreciate you, and I give thanks to God for your life as you read this inspired book by the Holy Spirit. The blessings of the almighty God will never depart from you and your entire household.

Chapter 1 CONSISTENCY

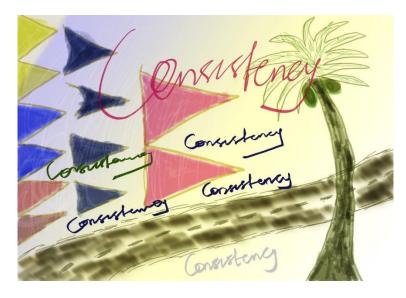
Consistency refers to the quality of regularly behaving, executing, or happening in a comparable (positive) way. The more this current generation drifts from being good, the more damage is done in our societies nowadays. To have a child is no longer a problem in this present generation, but to be consistent in keeping them in the way of the Lord is the major problem affecting many homes. Parents' focus is shifting to meet ends and forget about their role as parents in feeding their children the words of God. Scripture says better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof. For every parent to be happy at the end, we must maintain a certain level of consistency in teaching and feeding our children what is right and what they need in life.

If God created everything man needs in 6 days and rested on the 7th day, this shows us God's consistency. Most importantly, the day of our rest shouldn't be more than the day we should be praying, teaching, and guiding our children about living a life that pleases God and not humans. Never give up should be our slogan instead of quitting and blaming God for what we should do as parents. One of the scriptures I am always amazed by is *Genesis 8:21:* "And the LORD was pleased with the aroma of the sacrifice and said to himself, 'I will never again curse the ground because of the human race, even though everything they think or imagine is bent toward evil from childhood. I will never again destroy all living things."

"Even though everything they think or imagine is bent toward evil from childhood."

As a parent, you can now see that we shouldn't give up when we see our children doing things contrary to how we expect them to behave. This is not anyone's fault since we are sharing the earth with devils,

and we have to be consistently renewing our minds with the words of God at the same time we are doing His will. There is no growth without consistency, either spiritually or physically. Therefore, if we need to see the changes we desire in our children, we should never give up on them and never fail to teach them the power of consistency. **Hebrews 11:6** says: *But without faith, it is impossible to please him: for he that comes to God must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of those who diligently seek him.*



There is no seeking without consistency, and there is no knowing without seeking. If we genuinely want to be rewarded, we must be consistent in everything God has committed to our hands. Your children are the fruits God committed to your hands, and your children are arrows in your hand.

Finally, do not give up showing your children how to be consistent in dealing with life (education, business, goals, ministry, etc.). If we are not consistent in teaching them what is right, we shouldn't expect them to do what we want. *Are you consistent, or do you cut corners?*

Chapter 2 CONTENTMENT

Contentment is the second of the eight vital Cs, and many don't even know the meaning of the word or the importance of being content with what God has blessed us with. Almighty God knows what you and I will become in life, and he sets everything based on time and season.

Let me give you a simple scenario about life that everyone should have in the back of their minds.

Some people will be happy in the morning and have trials at night in this life. Some will have their trial in the morning and be happy in the afternoon. Some will be happy in the morning and afternoon and have their trial at night. Some will have their trial all through the day; some will be happy all day and have their trial all night long. Oh yeah, that's life for all of us; it is not balanced, and that's why we should be pleased with what He blessed us with.

Like I said earlier, many people don't know the meaning of contentment. So, let's look at the dictionary meaning first. *Contentment is an emotional state of happiness that can be viewed as a mental state, possibly derived from feeling at peace with one's circumstance, body, and mind.*

Contentment is to be fulfilled with God's blessing in your life. Contentment is seeing God in every situation of your life. Contentment is to seek God first in all things you embark on in the journey of life. Contentment is when you are not moved by material or worldly things but solely rely on the blessings of God according to his own timing and season. *Contentment is love*. Yes, it's love, not lust. Someone who loves himself or herself will always be

happy, no matter what is lacking in the person's life.

Looking at the current situation in the world. It is filled with different social networking sites and applications that are consuming the time of many and, simultaneously, sowing some evil things that are not so in reality into the heart. So, a parent needs to teach their children what contentment means before the world sows what is not in their lives. As you know, they are the generation most familiar with technologies and smarter with them. They will always find a way to be connected to the virtual world. If you are thinking right now, you will block them from using your smartphone or engaging in any of it.



No! No!! No!!! That will be a disaster, as the work of every parent is to educate their child and let them know about the reality of life. Let me share a short story with us about two young friends looking for a greener pasture. *If you are a parent, allow your child to read this story, tell it to others, and share more life experiences with them.*

Kola and Tola left their hometown for a greener pasture. They were best friends and went to the same school from childhood. They were both blessed with heavenly knowledge and skills. The new life in a foreign land wasn't smooth initially, but Kola is impatient and quickly wants to make it.

Kola decided to venture into an illegal business and became a con artist. He started enjoying life in another dimension. He smokes anything, drinks all types of alcohol, and has fun with any ghost in the club. Within two years, he had gathered all earthly riches, made new friends, and didn't know who the hell Tola was anymore because he couldn't follow him. On this fateful day, Kola saw Tola at a construction site, and he looked at him and said, Oh, my rosy life, can you see that life is sweet with money? So, he mocked him and called him different abusive names, but Tola wasn't bothered.

As God lives, he has blessed us with both the brains to do good things and the strength to achieve what we want in our short journey on earth. Instead of Tola being depressed, he was inspired to venture into a business. He shared his ideas with a few people and shared a proposal with a colleague at his workplace. Within a few months, he got the money he needed from a friend's father to start the business. The business started, but still, life wasn't rosy for him. So, he keeps pushing for the next 13 years, and things become rosy for him on the 14th anniversary of his company.

Kola is still in the scam business, and he decided to settle down after many years of living a reckless life. Kola got married, but something shocking happened. He couldn't multiply. Kola is no longer the fruitful Kola. His wife started abusing him, and he went from depression to hypertension and stroke. He continues to live, enjoying the rest of his life in a wheelchair, while someone else is enjoying what he has acquired illegally in life.

Both Kola and Tola grow old, reaching 72 years, and they met at a worship center one day. The meeting of two childhood friends ended up in a crying party; Kola begged Tola and sought his help. A few years later, Kola dreamed of exchanging his glorious journey for quick, illegal ways of making money. He seeks God's forgiveness, but he never enjoys the life of a scammer more than 19 years and wastes 57 years in a wheelchair battling with stroke.

Summary of the story: Do not use the process, preparation, and waiting time to exchange riches that won't last. Friends will depart, and many fans will flee when your life becomes messy. Almighty God has blessed us abundantly with knowledge, wisdom, and a heavenly understanding of things on earth. All you have to do is seek his direction in life. Not all men need a massive amount of money to live a good life. Appreciate whatever he has blessed you with, and your life will be sweeter than the honeycomb. Be satisfied with what God has blessed you with. Don't focus on your friends using the latest phone, car, and shoes; don't divert your focus to what is not yet time that God wants to give you. It will only lead to disaster, like in the case of Kola.

Whatever the situation you are into: Rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus; **1** Thessalonians **5:16–18**. Lack of contentment gives short happiness, but contentment leads to eternal joy.

Chapter 3 COMPASSION

Your life is not your life. Yes, and that is the truth many fail to accept: that our life is not our own and that life's journey is not only about us. You are alive today for a purpose. You are on earth for a specific assignment, and that's what makes your life not your own. You can't live it the way you want or be self-centered.

What does compassion have to do with my life? I know you wonder why the Holy Spirit led me to start with your life. We are alive and living a healthy life today because someone had compassion for us when we didn't know it or didn't yet exist. **Wow**, how is that possible? Yes, we are all victims of the first sin that man committed. So please don't be logical with that statement, as no one can question the sovereignty of the almighty God.

The creator of all good things makes all things good for us, but man doesn't obey. Just imagine telling your child not to do something, and he went ahead and did it. The event led to serious trouble for him, and he rushed back home, not telling you what happened. When you find out, you will be so mad about it that you will even try to punish or limit his engagement in some things.

Now think about the almighty God who knew everything. The first man fell, and Jesus had compassion on us. He saved us from the trouble of life and made a way for us to have the gift of the Holy Spirit (the Comforter). Oh, this is now looking like preaching, and how does this relate to compassion?

We must all be led by a good example. Jesus had set a perfect standard for all of us, and it was stated many times that Jesus had compassion for them. He summarized all the 10 commandments into two: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." and "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:37-40



Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of *compassion* and the God of all *comfort*, who *comforts* us in all our troubles *so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we receive from God*. 2 Corinthians 1:2-4

Now let's look at the meaning of compassion: *sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others*.

Can you now see that to be compassionate is not a matter of choice but a commandment from the father of compassion? Yes, it is, and it should be forever for all children of God.

Dear parent and reader of this message, please don't be the source of others' problems if you want God to comfort you. When you see people suffering, help them. Don't live for yourself and your family

The Unique 8C's of Life – Dr. Ibrahim Adeshola

only. Instead, live for God and obey all his commandments in all your days on earth.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ continue to be with you as you allow the Word to live in you forever. Amen!!!

Chapter 4 CAPABILITY

What is your capacity? Are you capable? What is leading you in life, and are you yielding to instructions? Does that instruction bring peace or fear? What are the outcomes so far?

Life begins with questions, and the solutions are in the mind of God, which he does reveal to us part by part. A man of purpose knows what he can do at every appointed time. Likewise, man's capacity regarding life determines what he can accomplish at a specific time with the help of the Holy Spirit. Human capacity means to say what the power of the human being is. Person capabilities and strengths are taken under capacity. How physically he is strong or what tasks he can perform. Capability also includes our mental strength (what we can digest, meditate on, and hold).



The first thing to know is that God will not reveal what we cannot comprehend at a specific time until we are fit or get to the stage. Everything is a process, and no one should skip stones to the top of the mountain to see the beauty of life. Nowadays, many people's lives are cut short because they want to skip the process to get what they are not capable of at a particular time in their lives. These kinds of people yield to the instructions of the devil, and the outcomes are always terrible.

Please examine yourself again and reflect on what you have yielded in life. Do they bring peace to you, and are they something you can do at the stage of your life? Dear parents and intended parents, the spirit of impatience is roaming everywhere nowadays, and the only way to be immune to this spirit is when we only follow the leading of the Holy Spirit. The devil will always come to test us, trick us into doing what is beyond us, and make us see it as morally acceptable, but when we are in constant fellowship with the Holy Spirit, we cannot fall for the devil's tricks and lies.

Let's constantly ask ourselves questions about everything that comes our way. Let's always be spirit-filled, and no question is too big to ask the Holy Spirit, as he is our comforter. Let us teach our children the proper way of life, constantly engage them in the things of God, and most importantly, follow the leading of the Holy Spirit. Advice from peers will surely come, societal pressure is already there, and the oppressors are still in the business of oppressing the children of God, but when you know your capacity is Christ according to His time, His will, and the leading of the Holy Spirit, there is nothing to worry about in life.

Chapter 5 CORRUPTION

Corruption is like a substance that destroys a body, chases away the Holy Spirit, and consumes a soul.

Nowadays, many people are subjected to corrupt ways of life due to pressure from authority figures in the workplace. Many leave on corruption, dwell in sin, and see it as the norm because the people above engage in it without any instant or visible judgment. Corruption kills, destroys life, and ruins nations.

Matthew 10:28 Says: Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul, but rather be afraid of Him who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna.

The scripture warned us to be afraid of God and not follow the world's pattern because people who follow its practices are of the world. So why should we engage in something that profits nothing but brings disaster? Shall we now follow the corrupt world and neglect God's word? God Forbid!!!

Corruption is defined as a criminal offense committed by a person or organization in a position of authority to obtain illicit gains or abuse the system for personal gain. The rate at which youth engage in fraudulent acts now is quite problematic, and this is a result of corruption that has become an inheritance in our societies.

People inherit greediness from their parents, and the cycle continues in the lives of those who don't know God and are not at His mercy.



A corrupt parent cannot assure their children freedom from the problems of this world. 2 Peter 2:19 says: *They promise them freedom, while they are slaves of depravity—for "people are slaves to whatever has mastered them.*" When you are corrupt as an individual, you are a slave to corruption and any evil attributes of it. *Money from corrupt sources cannot bring peace or give your kids freedom.* So why engage in something that doesn't get promising futures for our generation?

Job 17:13-15 Says: If the only home I hope for is the grave, if I spread out my bed in the realm of darkness, if I say to corruption, 'You are my father,' and to the worm, 'My mother' or 'My sister,' where then is my hope - who can see any hope for me?

The end of life is neither death nor returning to dust, for only the body will return to dust while the spirit returns to God. Everything that we have done on this earth will be accounted for and judged by Yahweh.

Psalm 8:3-6 Says: When I consider Your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon, and the stars, which you have set in place, what is humanity that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor. You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet.

Our God is mindful of us, and He knows what we want and need. He created everything we need before He made us. He blessed us with the works of His hands and put everything under our feet. What else can we ask for? What else can we long for? What else can a man ever ask for that He has not provided? *None*. I know clearly that there are people in this world who have sold themselves to the devil and his agents, but we as children of God should never, ever bow to their pressure because we are the light of the world.

We only have eyes full of light and hearts filled with love. Therefore, we should always seek God and ask for direction in anything we are engaged in. There is only one way that can open all forms, and that way is the way of God. There is no other way, no other means, but only through Him.

If you are to live a stress-free life, Seek Him every second of your life and Let **Mathew 6:33 and Proverbs 3** be your guide. I pray that you will know Him and the power of His resurrection.

2 Peter 2:20-22 Says: And when people escape from the wickedness of the World by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and then get tangled up and enslaved by sin again, they are worse off than before. It would be better if they had never known the way to righteousness than to know it and then reject the command, they were given to live a holy life. They prove the truth of this proverb: "A dog returns to its vomit." And another says, "A washed pig returns to the mud."

You have come to the light and know the truth. I pray that you are indeed free forever and that you will never go back to your vomits. May the abundant blessings of God be upon you and your generation forever. Amen!!!

Chapter 6 Character

How important is a good character to our lives? Very, very unlikely, because the people of this world will take you for granted; I'm not like Jesus. These are the likely answers people give when it comes to character. Good character is not a choice; it's something that we should be conscious of all the time. Good character should be our lifestyle, as we are the ambassadors of Christ.

What is character: It's the strength and originality in a person's nature. It's a person's good reputation.

As a faithful individual, what do people know about you in society? A person of integrity with good character towards people around them or otherwise. I want you to take a few minutes and reflect on your life and who you truly are, and ask yourself if you wish to continue in that way or not. *Be truthful to yourself and ask again, Am I truly an ambassador of Christ?* Nowadays, there are many people for whom, when friends and relatives remember their name, the next thing to follow is a curse or abusive words. They might not hate them for anything, but maybe because of their uncalled-for behaviors towards them.

A person of good character has saved lives in the past, and many are still saving lives today. As a child of the living God, what we are inwardly is what we express to others, and the scriptures warn us not to be in the middle (lukewarm), but always hot for God. God hates bad character and has never condoned such, and if we are to truly claim to be witnesses, ambassadors, and representatives of Christ's love, we must build our inner man with a good character that truly reflects our Lord Jesus Christ.

Abraham lifted his eyes, saw three men, ran from his tent, bowed himself to the ground, said, My Lord, beg them, offer them water to wash their feet, and the hospitality began (Genesis 18). We all know the story, but we should pay attention to the great character that led to hospitality and resulted in an answer for his prayer.



Abraham was not praying at that time for what he received. He wasn't fasting either, but a good character opened doors of fellowship with the Lord and answered prayer without any struggle. Mathew 5:48 says: *You, therefore be perfect [growing into complete maturity of godliness in mind and character, having reached the proper height of virtue and integrity], as your heavenly Father is perfect.* We can see that having a good character is not optional for believers in Christ Jesus, as our behaviors have a lot to do with other people accepting and following Christ.

As a faithful individual, we need to be intentional with our lifestyle behaviors and be of good character at all times that our children can emulate. Please don't say I'm not yet a parent; there is no need to be

just now, and I can live my life to the fullest. Here is the case of Abraham and Isaac: In Genesis 12 and 20, Abraham lied that Sarah was her sister, and when we read in Genesis 26, Isaac repeated the same lie that Rebekah was her sister. Abraham did it when Isaac did not know or was not present, and history repeated itself. So, we can see that we need to be extremely careful with our ways and live a life that pleases God and not men.

David committed adultery with his soldier wife, killed the husband, and asked for forgiveness of sins. God sent Prophet Nathan to him to deliver a message, and up to these present days, blood doesn't depart from his generation. Absalom did worse than his father David, and in all the David bloodline, King Solomon crowned the promiscuous behaviors. This short story reveals that forgiveness of sin does not mean that the same thing will not repeat itself in a greater dimension in the bloodline of the person who sinned. What sin does is cause separation from God and the Holy Spirit. In the beginning, God was in fellowship with Adam, and sin caused a great separation that remains today, but thank God for the only begotten son of God who reconciled us back to the Father and gave us access to the spirit of God.

Human character depicts who we are inwardly, and God is a spirit who searches man's heart and knows everything about us. Forgiveness of sin is one thing, and laying a solid foundation for generations to come is more important than our present situation. No matter what you are going through in life, let your character be a good one that can pass the fire test anytime. May God almighty help us in all our ways on the journey of life. I pray that your character will not shut the doors of progress and blessings for you in Jesus's mighty name.

Chapter 7 CONFIDENCE

"Confidence" is one of the rewards of obeying and allowing the Holy Spirit to lead us in life. A man (male or female) is born of a woman, made up of earth, and shared the earthly realm with the evil ones. We should never have confidence in our flesh because it leads to nothing. Never have confidence in evil spirits; they lead to destruction. In all the days of our lives, we must let our confidence only be in the Holy Spirit and Jesus (the author and perfecter of our faith). It's only a foolish man who will say to himself, I'm wise, and I can do all things. When we acknowledge our wisdom and forget God, who gave us life and made every organ in our body, then we have missed it.

It's very important for us first to acknowledge that every good and perfect gift comes from God, and we must always acknowledge him in everything we do. Everything is not limited to our spiritual life; it includes what we do in our daily lives as well. We must firmly believe that the devil can never have the final say in our lives because God is on our side and the Holy Spirit dwells in us.

A time will come in our lives when our strength won't help us. A time that the beauty we cherish will fade away. A time our sweet, sensational voice will turn to froggy own in the ear of the people. A time when the flesh is preparing to return to dust. A time that death will separate the body, soul, and spirit. Thanks to the Almighty God and Our Lord Jesus Christ, who make the Holy Spirit accessible to all believers, Our Lord Jesus Christ makes us understand that we should not be afraid of death or any evil things in the world, but we should count everything as joy.

Most importantly to all believers, we must not wait until we are physically weak before we start trusting God. This is one of our societies' common practices, and we must do away with such beliefs or practices. We should trust in God and serve Him all the days of our lives, not just when we are old.



According to the Oxford dictionary, "confidence is the feeling or belief that one can have faith in or rely on someone or something." We can see the importance of **faith** in being confident. Should we now have faith in our flesh? God forbid. **Hebrews 11** summarized people of faith who have confidence in the word of God, obey his commandments, and were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised.

John 16:33 says, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this World, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." Philippians 4:4 says Rejoice in the Lord always. I will repeat it: Rejoice! And Hebrews 11 & 12 finalized it.

Take a few minutes of your time to study and meditate on Hebrews 11-12, and you will notice how it ends, which says, "*Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire.*" Praise and thank the almighty God who gave you a kingdom that cannot be shaken. Therefore, let us have faith in Him always and never let the issues of life drive us away or shake our confidence in Him because you have received what cannot be shaken. James 1:2 says, "*Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds.*"

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 8:38-39.**

Are you convinced that your confidence is in God always?

Chapter 8 COMPETITION

The first thing I want you to question about competition is, "Is it necessary for my precious child to compete with other children?" Think about the things that come out of competition first, and ask yourself again this simple question: "Can my child cope with the outcome of the competition?"

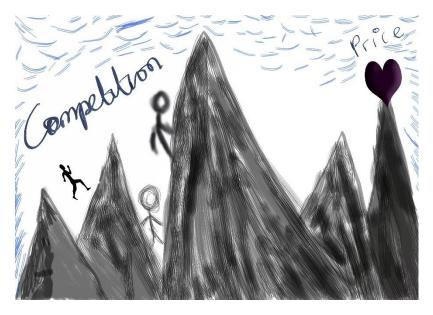
The truth is that you can't answer that question for your child, as what most parents perceive about their child's reaction to an event is just an outward appearance. In every competition, there is only one winner and many runners up (losers), as the world standard sets it to be in many phases of it, and whenever we are to engage in the socalled competition, many believe that they will be the winner, of which it's clear that there will only be one winner.

Dictionary meaning of the Competitions says: "*it's an activity or condition of striving to gain or win something by defeating or establishing superiority over others.*" Please teach your child to compete in the game only and just for fun; it shouldn't be something that becomes part of them.

Many parents have ruined their kids' lives with just a simple sentence like, "*Your friends are doing well in class and getting the first position in college, but you are just like that.*" Please only encourage your child to do better and never force them to achieve things by any means they can. The evil words you sow in them will not only last for that moment you mention it but stay in their hearts until the evil tree is uprooted.

I'm not saying competition is bad, but the way we use the word and what it means to our kids' lives matter most for their future. So, for example, suppose you let them know that it's all about fun and not a

life battle that must be won, as every competitor has a specific belief before engaging in it. I know you are questioning your mind right now: "Oh my goodness! You mean competition should just be for fun". Yes, it should be for fun because the truth is that *those who enjoy the game do win the game and enjoy the moments*. On the other side, those who see it as a battle are likely to fill their minds with hatred for other competitors.



Rather than competing to win or lose, as the world teaches, let us guide our children to be fruitful in every step of their lives. It's more important to be fruitful for God than to win a competition. Please teach your child how to make a meaningful impact with every step they take in life. Having a great impact on people's lives or events is more important than winning.

If God has blessed them with knowledge, let them know that it is good to teach others who lack the knowledge. If God blessed them with wisdom, teach them not to use it for selfish interests but to make life better for everyone.

It's only when we see life as something everyone should enjoy that this world becomes a better place for all of us. The foundation of everything should be based on love and nothing else. A man who loves is the one who can teach others about love and lead them to the way of God. So let love show instead of focusing on winning a race.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ibrahim Adeshola is an experienced multidisciplinary researcher who has had work published in prestigious journals. He has an in-depth knowledge of a variety of research fields, including management information systems, educational technology, marketing, cloud computing, organizational management, business and environmental sustainability, technological innovation, renewable energy, organizational culture, and business development.

He has been lecturing at the university level for more than six years and has sound teaching skills in information technology, management information systems, educational technology, and computer sciencerelated courses.

He is an ad hoc reviewer for top-tier academic journals, and the majority of his publications are in top-tier academic journals. He has had the opportunity to lecture in a multicultural environment and collaborate with researchers from various countries over the years. He is a top-rated career coach, educational consultant, and website developer.

Above all, he is a witness of our Lord Jesus, who is passionate to spread the good news and bring the light of God to the inhabitants of the earth.

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