

The Challenge And Result Of Relocation

by Gbile Akanni

Gbile Akanni teaches that true spiritual impact and fulfillment of God's purposes often require believers to relocate from their comfort zones into regions of darkness to bring light and transformation.

Duration: 1:03:12

Scripture: Matthew 4:12-16, Isaiah 9:2

Topics: "Light and Darkness"

Description

In this powerful sermon, Gbile Akanni explores the spiritual significance of relocation as demonstrated by Jesus Christ and missionaries who have obeyed God's call to move into unfamiliar territories. He challenges believers to leave their comfort zones to bring light to regions of darkness, emphasizing that God's greater purposes often require sacrifice and faith. Through biblical exposition and real-life testimonies, Akanni inspires listeners to embrace the challenge of relocation for the advancement of God's kingdom.

Transcript

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Telephone numbers 0703 03636 59, 0703 76811 98. Email address lsmedia at livingseed.org or visit our website at www.livingseed.org. Let us sit back and listen as the servant of God brings forth the Word of Life. I would like you to open a passage of scripture with me as I just want to bring a very short challenge to set a focus for our discussion this evening.

Matthew chapter 4, Matthew chapter 4 and I will read from verse 12. Matthew chapter 4 from verse 12. Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee, and leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast in the borders of Zebulun and Naphilim, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying, The people which sat in darkness saw great light, and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death, light is sprung up.

From that time, Jesus began to preach and to say, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. May God bless his word to our heart in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. This verse 16 is quite a familiar passage, I would almost say a popular passage.

We quote it all the time. The people which sat in darkness saw a great light, and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death, light is sprung up. Now, thank God this looks like a prophetic scripture about the Lord Jesus Christ.

But the little issue I want to address our hearts to this evening is the fact that this passage, the Bible says, was fulfilled because Jesus, in verse 13, left Nazareth and came and dwelt in Capernaum. Because Jesus left his home country, Nazareth where he was born and was raised and he was used, everybody knew him, that's where he had grown up. But a time came when I don't know what happened to him, by the leading of God, by movement according to his purpose in life, he decided to relocate and he left Nazareth and went to Capernaum.

Such a simple decision to leave where he was living before, where he has been known, where he had grown up, where everything probably had become comfortable for him. That simple decision to relocate from Nazareth to Capernaum, the Bible suddenly recorded that it fulfilled prophecy. That light came to the region of darkness because one man, I know you would like to tell me is the Lord Jesus Christ, yes, but that prophecy will never have been fulfilled if he continued to live in Nazareth.

If he had stayed where he was and he did not change location, maybe location of residence, location of job, a place where he had been familiar with and moved somewhere else, just by that movement, light went to the region of darkness. He showed me also that in this move that we are talking about, people will continue to live in darkness, people will continue to live in ignorance. Prophecies that has been made for centuries will continue to hang until certain people, by the leading of the Holy Spirit, relocate from where they are.

Certain prophecies will never be fulfilled. Certain things that God intended in his plan and programs will never come to pass until certain people agree to relocate from where they are and shift to the region of darkness. Light only spreads as men that God has walked light into their life.

Men who carry the life light, men who have encountered the cross, men who have encountered Jesus Christ and their self life has been crushed and they bear the light of God. Therefore, when such men move from the region of concentration of light and they move to the region of darkness, that is where heaven is going to announce that the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light. We thank God for everything that God is doing in our lives.

Thank God for the light that is beginning to grow in your heart. Thank God for Christ's life that is beginning to mature in you. As long as people who carry such light do not go to the region of darkness, those people will continue to live in what? Are you following me at all? As long as light fails to shift, to relocate, to move, to go to the region of darkness, the people who dwell in darkness, they will continue to dwell in darkness.

Sometimes when we read this scripture, in my own immature mind at a younger age in Christ, I used to think that when they said the people in darkness have seen a great light, I thought that God will just open the heaven and thunder will strike and light will just shine across the region of darkness. From this passage I am saying that for people who live in darkness to see light, it means that light being carried by some individuals, relocated from the region of concentration of light and they came to the region of darkness. One critical element of missions over the years is that people who know Christ, who carry light, who carry the life of God, they have accepted the challenge of moving from their comfort zones, of moving from their familiar territory, moving away from where they have lived all their lives and they agree to go to the region of darkness.

Let me ask you a very simple question. I want you to think very well before you answer me. Why is a program like MLR gathering tens of thousands of people? Why is it happening in this place at this time now? Why? It's not a simple question.

Why is there a team of people called Peace House? Why are they in Goko? And they are not in Ibadan? Or they are not in Ogoma shore? Why are they here? I'm not hearing your answer. Because one man who contracted the light shifted location and agreed to come and dwell among a people of a strange tongue, as far as he is concerned, to come and dwell in a place unfamiliar to his birth. This place where we are today will have been a complete bush.

What is happening here today is simply happening because one man accepted to shift location. I am not saying it may never have happened on the earth. It may have been happening somewhere else.

But that it came here is because God found somebody who accepted to shift. Now, it is time for us to begin to address our hearts to these issues as God is beginning to talk about a greater task. Some of us sitting down here, you will never step into that greater task at your present location.

You will never enter into the higher purposes of God until you agree, part and parcel of the desire of God to move you into the greater works. But we have to begin to accept in our mind that it may involve, and in many cases, it includes a shift of location. Sometimes it may be a change of job.

Sometimes it may be a change of residence. The people who are in darkness will continue to be in darkness until those who carry the life light agree to move into the region of darkness. Light has to be carried in a vessel.

Light is carried in lives. Light is carried by vessels on whom God has poured his life and lit the light of the gospel. So this evening, as a beginning of our ministerial challenges, I am going to invite some of our brothers who have had to accept the challenge of relocation.

They were comfortable where they were. They were spiritual where they are. They were doing well ministerially, physically, in every sense until, according to the leading of God, God said you are going to shift from where you are and go to a social place.

And they accepted the challenge. This evening, I do not have too much time, but I think I have two of our brothers who will share with us very briefly how the challenge of relocation came to them. How they accepted it and the fruit that has come personally to their own lives and also to the region of darkness.

After we do that, then we will spend some time to pray together. Permit me to ask our brother Alex to come first and share with us his experience in having to relocate and the things that have happened to him. You will help me to do it short and sharp.

Salamu Aleikom. Aleikom Wa Salam. Actually, Salamu Aleikom means peace be unto you.

That was the word that Jesus Christ said to the disciples after his resurrection. By the grace of God, the Lord moved me to Niger Republic. And as it has been said, mission has to do with relocation in different stages.

I am a Nigerian. I come from Niger State. I am baggy by tribe.

Now, when I came through this way into discipleship, I had a body and a vision to go back to my people. And when the Lord begins to show me the issue of relocation, what God showed me was actually I saw the word written N-I-G-E-L. Which if I should pronounce it could be Niger.

But as soon as God was showing me that, I never knew that that word was not to be called Niger. The word was actually to be called Niger. So when God now actually finalized for us to move into Niger Republic, a place that I have never known, a place where some people call the backyard of Nigeria, we moved into that place in the year 2013.

And the challenge I began to face in that place was I never knew anybody in that place. Even though the labor of this house through some of our brethren in the northeast were going for evangelism in Niger Republic. Some little introduction were made to us, but actually I never knew anybody.

So when we moved into Niger Republic, the primary call was discipleship. So we went into discipleship, but first and foremost, we identified ourselves with a denomination. No matter what the name of the denomination may be, it was not our issue.

But for us to have an identity, for us to identify with the indigents. Now, when we got there, we spent no less than four months in a church and we are fellowshiping with them because as it has been said, anywhere a Nigerian goes, people are very, very careful that this person is a Nigerian. Because we have had missionaries who come and do other things, not exactly what Christ asked them to do.

So we stayed in the church for about four months. We only greet people. They only greet us.

And we are praying and praying and praying. And our prayer was, God, please introduce us to the people. While we kept praying, one day, the reverend of our church asked us to come and introduce our mission.

When I came and introduced our mission, while I was standing on the pulpit as I am standing now, introducing Living City, When I finished, the reverend came and asked me and said, can you please give us the Sunday message? And from there, that is how I continued with the message. At the end of the day, God came, some people got to understand, and quickly, the church there, as they are accustomed, they raised an offering, and the next Sunday, they bought me a motorbike. Because they also wanted to participate, to contribute to what God has asked us to come and do in the Niger Republic.

So we were going to villages. We were going to villages. And some of you know that Niger is a desert.

It's sandy. So we go to villages to introduce discipleship in some of the churches. And by the grace of God from the village, we begin to break forth into other regions.

And by the grace of God, for the past five years now, the Lord has given us an open door. We have been able to enter into five regions in the Niger Republic, because the Niger Republic has eight regions. And by now, we say we have the Gideon Amin.

What I mean by the Gideon Amin, we can count how many disciples we have within these five years. There are about 300. It's now that some of them are still coming up.

But the Lord helped us to focus on the northern part of Niger, where you have the Fulanese, where you have the tourists, those people that look like Oyubo. We call them the Bouzou. Even though here in Nigeria they are not Bouzou, they are called Fulanese, but we call them the Bouzou.

So we'll be able to go towards Libya. We'll be able to go towards Algeria. We'll be able to go towards Burkina Faso, that is in Niamey.

And we could see that God is raising men. And one of the things that we're beginning to see, that the fruits are coming up, is that this year, MLR, I would like to say that we have the highest numbers of pastors that has ever attended this kind of a meeting. Which we are trusting God that this will be a machinery that they will be able to reach out to their own churches.

We are working among also the children. Last year God gave us a strategy, in order to be able to see how we can extend the next generation to cope up with discipleship. And in the region where we are, that is Maradi, that's where we're based.

We organized a meeting and called the children teachers, which we call the Sunday school teachers, in the region. And we were able to gather about 84, which were around a children meeting together with some teachers that came from Nigeria, in order to help us. Because we discovered that if we don't raise the children teachers into discipleship, and we are pursuing the elderly ones, by the time their strength fades, then the next generation, there will be problems.

So we gathered these children teachers, and we gave them teachings for about 2-3 days, which we are trusting God that we will follow it up. We only opened it up for a particular denomination. And you can see how the turn up was.

We are trusting God that the Lord will lead us to organize a national kind of this meeting, in order to raise disciples among the Sunday school teachers. Because if the Sunday school teachers are born again, and they have the life of Christ in them, we are trusting God that they will also be able to raise the children in their different churches. Now we have hard challenges.

One of the challenges we have is the distance between region to region. Like the northern region I'm trying to tell you about, for Maradi, if you are to travel to other places, where you travel to Agadas, you travel to Arlitz, and all of that, you need to spend 3 days on the road. Because you wouldn't have a straight vehicle that will go.

So the challenge of transport, transportation is also there, by the grace of God. We thank God for the 300 foxes and the 300 Gideon's army. Let me ask you a question.

When you arrived in Niger Republic, in your traveling around, how many people did you meet that have had the understanding of discipleship and following Jesus before you arrived there? Okay, they have heard about discipleship, but there is no understanding of discipleship. So virtually, we have gone through churches, to actually introduce what discipleship means, the life, to live the life of Christ. So I wouldn't be able to tell you the exact number of people I've met, but I've met several kinds of people who have had discipleship, but they have not lived by the word discipleship.

So they know the word discipleship, but the understanding is not there. Why I was asking that question is that, even if it is the 300 alone, that began to follow Jesus, and were able to arrive in heaven, they would not have had that opportunity, if our brother did not accept to relocate from Nigeria to Niger Republic. How many years have you spent there now? Five years.

Were you married? Yes, I was married with four children. We left two here in Nigeria. We went with the little ones in the Niger Republic.

So those little ones, they have French, they have Hausa, they have Bagi, they have English. They speak all those languages? All those languages now. God bless you.

I'm going to ask our brother Tayo to again bring another dimension to the matter of relocation. Praise the Lord. We first had the opportunity to visit Liberia, where we are presently laboring or located to labor over the Liberian Sierra Leone field.

Now, but the challenge of relocation that I would like to first talk about, as God began to signal to us of His purpose for our lives, is not first the relocation from Nigeria to Liberia, but the relocation from Lagos to Boko. It was a first challenge that we had to first relocate to Boko for our preparation towards wherever God was going to take us. You will understand what that means.

Thinking that you were living in a city where you felt that you have better educational institutions and all of that, it was not an easy challenge for us as individuals and as a family to easily agree with. But because we must follow what God was saying to us, we submitted to that and we relocated. Now, 2008, I had the privilege to be asked by the leadership to go to Liberia, like just spy the land, go through the land, look at the land.

I went with another brother. Then I was sent back again in 2009. This is where the challenge came.

One of the days while I was there, 2009, it suddenly dawned on me one night that I might eventually be sent by the leadership to come to Liberia. And when that came on me so strongly, I didn't find it easy at all. Actually, that night, I must confess, I wept.

Because I thought I was just coming to spy the land, give the report, and let leadership send whosoever they felt should go there. So, I was enjoying what I was doing in Boko, I was in the press, and I was enjoying it. And when it dawned on me that, look, you will be going to Liberia, that night, I struggled with it with the Lord.

And what was my struggle? The first issue was that, having been there 2008 and I've seen a little thing, I was worried, extremely worried, about my children's school. Because, for me, after God, the next thing I feel a child should have is good education. So, I was crying, saying, Lord, why did you want to bring me to this place? How will my children go to school? How will they go to good school? I was really crying, and then God came to me and said, look at you like this.

You are crying just because you want to leave Nigeria to go to Liberia. What of my own son who left the glory of heaven and he came down to this world and he became a wanderer? Now, that was what the Lord gave to me and I broke down and I said, Lord, I'm sorry. And with that, I was able to overcome that challenge of first agreeing to be relocated.

So, when we eventually relocate, we could not relocate with all of our children and it's a challenge, it's a mission challenge. Only two of our children went with us, we had four. And so, the challenge came, if you travel back to Nigeria, you are struggling, so where do you stay? Where are you? I remember one of the days, we were talking with the children and it was as if they have had a conference.

And then one of them asked, I said, where is our address? Is our address Boko or Morovia? We have to explain to them and the Lord helped us. So, the challenge of having even the family together because we couldn't carry all the children to Liberia was a very big matter. Now, we also have a social challenge of the fact that where we went, it's a very different social environment.

But the scripture that God has given us, which was read to us, is one of the anchors that we had as we went. That if we don't relocate the way we have, these people in darkness will not see the light. And I want to share with us, by the grace of God, that our relocation has brought light and is expanding the light of the gospel and the light of the word of God in Liberia.

That things are changing as we have been reporting to us from time to time. I want to report that God is helping that people are now saying particularly what, how to go about the family life. Last year alone, we were able to marry, no this year, we were able to marry two couples who came out of discipleship.

They grew in discipleship, they found their partners in discipleship and they are married now. By the grace of God, next year, by February, we will also have another one who are growing in discipleship and is changing. The social orientation is changing a lot in Liberia by the grace of God.

Also, God is helping us to raise what we call replacement sons and daughters. Indeed, the people in darkness, by our relocation and by the mercy of God, a great light has come unto them. God is penetrating, things are changing, churches are opening, pastors are saying, some are saying, why are you coming so late? But we know that it is because God took us to that place that they begin to see the light of the word of God that is setting them free in every facet of life.

Praise the Lord. Now, I have been in Liberia several times since they relocated to Liberia. And several times there have been very large gatherings that were gathered around discipleship and around revival.

I've even attended a meeting with him of close to like 50 pastors who had never heard about discipleship before and they were introduced. But we thank God for what God is doing in Liberia. I am more interested in relocation from Lagos to Boko.

Because it represented to me a first relocation to be discipled. So this relocation that we are dealing with, for some of us may mean a first relocation from where you are, where you are comfortable, into somewhere that looks like a wilderness. First for the life light to be grown inside of you.

Let me ask you, did you go to school at all before you came into all of this? What did you study? I am a charter accountant. Did you say you were a chartered accountant? Because my certificate is still valid. So you were a chartered accountant? Your wife went to school? Yes.

You had children? Yes. What stage were your children when you moved to Boko? Our first son was in primary four. The second in primary one.

The third has not entered school. We have not had the last that time. The last one came in Boko? The last one came in Boko.

A daughter of discipleship? Yes. Alright. This challenged the fear in your heart about their education.

How did it turn out? Now that's how many years ago? That was 2003, 16 years ago. 16 years ago. If you add 16 years to primary four, that child should have finished university by now.

Where is that your first son? It was for the sake of time. When we relocated to Boko, that fear, the Lord took it away. I want to say to the glory of God, even while our first son was at glory, North Rhine Primary School, he represented the state in the primary school cow-bear competition.

And when he went to Baptist High School, he also represented Plateau State at cow-bear competition. They never were behind. Disadvantaged.

They were not disadvantaged because God spoke to us actually. He said none of your children will be at disadvantage because you are serving me in this manner. And we held on to it.

And our first son, our first son, by the grace of God, finished from the university in Europe last year. The second one has just finished from the University of Lagos this year. The third one is in university in Ghana.

The fourth one is in Cavalier. It's enough. It's enough.

Sometimes the relocation can be several. Not just once. God may require you to move from place to place to place to place.

And I'm going to bring one of our brothers who have had such an experience to share with us and to also bring out the benefits that has come to the body of Christ from such movement. Brother Patrick Ogudu, you will be sharing with me, with us quickly. My first movement in the discipleship journey actually started from Boko.

Finishing my youth service with Nigerian Fellowship of Evangelical Students as a corporate. And found myself down here in Boko for discipleship. So between 1989 and 1991, I was here in Boko.

And after that, I relocated to Enugu. And there in Enugu, I was involved. I was teaching in the university.

And then also pursuing the discipleship revival labor because then there was nothing on ground. So we find ourselves moving around Enugu State, Nsukka, Abakaliki, all of those places. Suddenly, when our brother Dennis Sega came down from Boko to Onisha, that was when the walk all over the east and south-south gathered serious momentum.

And God began to help us over there in my own corner at Enugu and Eboi States. So eventually, we had to move again. After some years working in the university, it became clear that the time to return to Boko for a fresh impute and a fresh sending, the time had come.

I was being encouraged to start my PhD then. But my time was up. So I had to leave and leave the walk.

And then that's how I got down to Boko. And when we were coming to Boko, I had three children. My first daughter, who was then in secondary school, and then two boys.

And I didn't envisage that we would have accommodation. Even though we were living in a flat in Enugu, we packed all that we could put in one vehicle. All that we needed to move with was in one vehicle.

We folded two flat mattresses into the vehicle, got our small gas cooker, and left every other thing, not knowing what will befall us. And when we arrived, we were so surprised. We thought that it will be one room.

But we were happy to find ourselves in what they called the guest house that time. Two rooms and a parlour. It was a big matter for us.

We were so happy. That parlour was as bare as anything. We didn't think we needed to be moving cushions and other things in the meanwhile.

So we had the rug in the parlour as our seat. And if you're a big man, we had some cartons of tract that we used as seats for the person that would not sit on the floor. And that's how we kept going.

Eventually, after some years, after some three years plus, there was need for another movement. As we were sent this time on second journey, this time back to the east, I had been working in the printing press, and we were seeing visions for the press, together with Tayo, who was the manager of the press. I was assisting him.

Both the manager and the assistant, none of us had idea of press before. We caught it by anointing. And that's how God used us.

Even though I lost half of my finger to the press, it was all part of the zeal and the commitment that God was driving us with, to work in that press. Now, when we had to leave for the east again, this time to Onitsha, our brother Dennis Segar was about moving to the Francophone countries. So that's how we got to Onitsha.

We were glad to have an accommodation in Onitsha. That flat, before we knew it, disciples filled the whole house. And we had one toilet for the whole flat.

All of us. So sometimes we have to line up in the morning, waiting for both the minor and the major, and bathing. And it was all very exciting.

In fact, sometimes we are twenty-something, we are thirty-something. People will be scrambling for place to put their mats. Some people will even have their place in the corridor.

Disciples that wanted to live close by. We found out that there were several lives that were needing personal touch. And on and on, God helped us.

Now, but I just want to, I cannot be talking about the things that happened within these eleven years. I've been in the east, my second mission journey, for the eleventh year. By this January coming, it will be eleven, complete.

So, but there's one or two things I need to mention again about the relocation. When we stayed a while in Onisha, a couple of years, and seeing that there has been much volume of discipleship, because that's where our brother Dennis was based, we found that the other end of Oka was still much dry. There was need for another relocation.

So, as we talked with the leadership, we had to shift again to Oka. And that is, I think that's the fourth movement now. From Boko to Enugu, from Enugu to Boko, from Boko to Onisha, from Onisha to Oka.

I don't know where next. But my bag is always packed. So, the final point is that, one of the impacts that God made was the labor at Afipo, Ebo State, where the Muslims had been making much effort in converting Igbos to Islam.

We gave reports some years ago about that place. I want to give a little update. First to tell you that God is working in that land.

It will not be correct to be saying again that Islam is sweeping Ebo State. That's not a correct statement anymore. Not even Afipo is under control of Islam again.

The Islamic Foundation, which is the instrument in that place, the large compound they built, where they have the Islamic Institute, and where they have the primary and secondary schools that are running free, which is the instrument they are using to get the children of the land. We want to say that as God led us, along with the team, several of our brethren, the staff that have labored, Bro. Johnnie Mee, Bro.

Chizoba, and several others on ground, we have seen God do great things. We have seen that the peculiar trade, nursery and primary school, we started by faith. As we are talking, the pupils there are a bit less than 500 in number.

The school is running free. The school is running free. We have enough teachers.

Disciples are volunteering at no cost to teach in that school. And the villagers, they have no reason anymore to send their children to the Islamic school. In fact, some of the parents are bringing out their children from that place.

And in addition, we find out that as prayers have been going on, the foundation is drying. The community no longer, many of them don't send their children there. They would rather go to other parts of Igbo land where they have settlements.

That's where they gather children from different parts of the East, from Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Igbo State, wherever they have settlements and they are winning some indigenous, they bring them from there. But even at that, things are no more easy. All the foreigners have left, and it's the indigenous.

And for the first time, they were almost, for some three, four months, there was no school there because the teachers went on strike because they were not paid. And after that, they had to force the children. This time, parents have started to pay fees in that school.

They are now paying fees. So things are diminishing. Facilities are going down.

And, in fact, they are beginning to think, they say they want to, the alumni who graduated from there many years ago, they met together in a recent meeting in the compound, and they were pressing that the school should be relocated to Auchi. So, Bro Mike said no way. So, wherever it wants to go, our first matter is that we pray it out of our land in Jesus' name.

So, Auchi people, over to you. Praise the Lord. Now, by the grace of God, I've had a first-hand privilege of going to several of these places that our brethren relocated to, and I've had very serious, very serious impressions of what God has done in those places.

But that's not where my attention is. My attention is the fact that God challenged these brethren to relocate, and they accepted. Now, this, the story that our brother was telling, he told the story of how he's living in one room with no chair in the parlor, and all the difficulties, how he moved from place to place, and challenges of accommodation, challenges of convenience, these are the things that don't allow people to move.

But I allowed him to get to the end of the story so that we see that even though we may pass through what looks like a wilderness, the end of it, God is never a debtor, and God does not punish the vessels that has come to him. One great challenge that I've had following our brother over the years, I slept in your house, how many weeks ago? About a month ago. I had reason to pass through Oka, and I slept over.

And when you, when they call for morning devotion, it's bigger than some of your Pentecostal churches. And these are people, they are not necessarily dropouts. These are master's degree holders who relocated to his house because of intimacy of discipleship.

Because he agreed to relocate for discipleship, he now has the life backing to collect such submission from others. There are some of you, you are great disciples, and you are wondering why disciples don't come to you, because you have not gone to anybody. The challenge that we are having now, now I just wanted to ask you, some of those brethren that come for discipleship, how do you get them to submit in discipleship? Is there a gimmick, a trick, a formula? There is no particular formula.

I just live my life because I have watched other lives. I've been close to other lives. I've been in discipleship.

Sometimes, even when we are here in Boko, we will leave our house in G.R.A. to meet morning devotion in our brother Billy's house at Akajime by 5.30 a.m. We will move there that early, just to be there, just to be part of the devotion, and flow and see how it goes. We join it together, we travel to meetings together. There have been so many things.

My eyes have seen, my ears have heard, my mouth, something has seeped inside me. It's inside, so I just live my life. There is nothing else I do.

I just live my life. Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord.

Thank you, sir. Now, so, I am sure I have overshot my time, but it's time for you and I to talk to God. The stories of relocation are many.

Let me share one personal testimony of that kind of relocation. Some months ago, we were in the Francophone countries, and we had the MLR of the Francophone in Benin Republic. And before the MLR began, we had the Millet.

As I sat in the Millet opening church, and I saw the room full of people from Francophone nations all across West Africa. As I sat down, something just came to my heart. All of this is happening because God found one man to persuade.

One man who could have been a commissioner, could have been a federal minister. One man who could have been enjoying himself in Nigeria, moved first from Goko to the East, as we have heard. From the East, he went to learn a foreign language in order to minister in the Francophone countries.

And as I sat down there and I saw the hundreds of heads sitting in Millets, and I said all of this happened because the people that sit in the region of darkness saw a great light because God found a vessel that decided to move. What are you going to do with your life? When are you going to step into what God has been calling you and been pulling you? What is the convenience that you are holding on to? What about the children? If we go into the promised land, the grasshopper, the giants will kill our children. Those who use such personal, social, little things to stop themselves from entering into the greater purposes of God.

I have been reading my Bible. I found out that many of them, they don't enter into God's promised land. The children they were afraid of, they are the ones that come to enter.

Therefore, this evening, we need to make a response to God. What are you going to do about these things that you are hearing? How are you going to respond to God? What is it that God has been laying on your heart? But you keep pulling out different, different arguments. It's time to respond to God.

Shall we pray? Let's pray to the Lord. Let's thank God for the lives that have given the testimonies of relocation of discipleship. They obeyed God and God has started working out things by their lives.

They actually had obeyed what God has said in Matthew 28. Go and make disciples of all nations. That is what God said, which they also have taken on and they have responded.

And we have seen the outcome. I want you to begin to talk to the Lord. Are you a disciple? Have you submitted to discipleship? And if not, why not? If that is the means by which a mission can be carried out, if you are not submitted, then it means therefore that you are not seeing what the Lord Jesus Christ left for us as the assignment.

You are not seeing it at all. I want you to begin to talk to the Lord and say, Lord, help me. Others have gone in and they have succeeded with it.

What of me? While we are praying, if you look at John chapter 4, the Lord Jesus Christ while he was on the face of the earth was actually hungry and he had the will of his father that was beckoning on him that he saw and that his hunger disappeared. John 4, verse 32 says, I have a meat to eat that you know not of. Verse 34 says, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me and to finish his work.

In Jesus' name we pray. Our father and our God, we want to appreciate you tonight. Thank you for this opportunity of this testimony that you have allowed us to go through.

Testify of the fact that if we obey you, we become useful instruments in your hands. Lord, we ask, oh God, that tonight, as your children have prayed to you, you will begin to give them the burden of what you want to accomplish by their lives. Either you want them to continue to pray, you want them to come out as missionaries, or whichever way you want them to be involved.

Lord, we ask that this burden will start, it will grow, it will mature, it will produce results to the glory and honor of our God. In Jesus' name we pray.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/gbile-akanni/the-challenge-and-result-of-relocation/>

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