



# Spirit of Grace Herald

The Ministry of Dennis  
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## Spirit of Grace Ministries

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### Don't Build in Vain!

In the Psalms we read a verse that contains two instances of worthless, useless, wasteful activities in which humans may be engaged. The Bible declares:

**Unless the LORD builds the house,  
They labor in vain who build it;  
Unless the LORD guards the city,  
The watchman stays awake in  
vain. (Psalm 127:1)**

The first vain, wasteful activity is to build a house without the active involvement of God. You have skilled builders, outstanding tools, and all the boards, bricks, drywall, shingles and everything else you might need. But somehow God's blessings are not on your labors, and the Bible sums up your efforts with the two-word phrase "**in vain.**"

Of course, God is not talking only about housebuilding. He is talking about any and every project or endeavor in which humans engage. He is telling us that He must be actively involved in everything we do, every plan we make, every project, every business, every relationship, every new season, every effort we make, every ministry, every undertaking that make up our lives from start to finish. If He is not actively involved, we are a failure, regardless of how impressed we and our friends may be with our apparent success.

Some would point out that there are many atheists and entirely secular men and women who never pray, never go to church, and can go from birth to death without ever touching a Bible, and yet they have created highly successful businesses, or risen to great places of power, fame, influence, and status in society. They seem to be "building their house" without God and doing very well at it. Of course, the answer to that mystery is pretty simple: God does not see as men and women see. Those who appear to be great successes, those who seem as though they have accomplished much, those who are admired and respected by millions – if they do not have God in their lives, they are, in the estimation of their Creator, accomplishing nothing. Jesus said, **"Without Me you can do nothing."**

Since it is true that without God's involvement, our houses and projects and businesses and careers are in vain, by what means can we be certain that God is very much involved in our lives? The answer is incredibly simple. We ask and invite God to bless the work of our hands and our every endeavor. And this is called prayer.



This means we pray about things. We pray about our career, we pray about our relationships, we ask God's blessings on every major new project and endeavor, and we let Him know that we know that without His blessings, all our hard work, and our most diligent plans will be fruitless. God loves to be invited into our activities. He moves and acts and directs and opens doors when He is invited to do so.

The ultimate project, the ultimate endeavor is life itself. We are usually given somewhere between 70 to 90 years to invite God into our lives, which specifically means to trust Jesus and receive Him as our Lord and Savior, that we might be born again. And just as a house built without God's involvement is in vain, so a man or a woman's life lived without Jesus Christ is equally in vain. All our laughter and tears and work and sweat and plans and projects and careers and relationships are meaningless without Jesus. He tells us, **"For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?"** (Mark 8:36). There is nothing wrong with building houses or starting businesses. Just make sure that with all that you do, and in everything you do, you invite Jesus to be Lord of it all. And that makes for a life that is not in vain!

# Mission Nigeria—May 2025

**We received glowing reports from our Nigerian brothers & sisters, regarding our recent JESUS CONFERENCE / free medical clinic / food distribution to the local widows:**

- "We've never seen anything like this."
- "These days have been a tremendous blessing to us. We have never heard anything like this before."
- "This teaching has blessed me. I don't normally go to meetings like this, but these meetings have blessed me in a big way. These teachings have been life-changing. I attended the first day, and after that I put all my plans aside to attend every day."
- "I have attended many programs, but I have never heard teachings like this."
- "These teachings are clear, and the ministry of the word is very understandable. We are being blessed."
- "Many ministers and conferences put much pressure on us to give to support the meetings, but with these meetings we are getting the teachings for free, as well as being fed meals every day at no cost. Plus, there is a free medical clinic which is very rare in this area."



**Watching the JESUS CONFERENCE**



**Graduates with Certificates**

**Free Medical Clinic**



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