



Covenant University Newsflash

A weekly update of News and Events in Covenant University August 7 - 11, 2017

12th Convocation: Covenant Produces 188 First Class, 35 PhD Graduates



A cross section of 2017 convocating students

A total of one hundred and eighty-eight (188) out of 1,125 graduates emerged with First Class Honours in the awards of Bachelor's degree at the 12th Convocation Ceremony of Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, held on Friday, July 21, 2017 inside the University's Chapel.

The awards of Bachelor's degree also featured 568 Second Class Honours (Upper Division), 322 Second Class Honours (Lower Division), while 47 made Third Class Honours.

Additionally, 35 graduated with the Doctor of Philosophy degree, 235 earned a Master's degree, and 31 bagged the postgraduate

diploma degree at the ceremony, where the Chancellor and Chairman, Board of Regents, Covenant University, Dr. David O. Oyedepo, charged members of the 2017 graduating class tagged, 'The Royal Set', to go into the world of work with a contributor's mentality.

Graduates, said the Chancellor, must possess a contributor's mentality to make the most of their journey through life. "Go out to say I have what it takes to add value to human life and you would be a value-adding citizen. In conformity with our mission as a University, we have invested massively in making you a total graduate, go and add value as an entity of

reference," he surmised.

While congratulating the graduates and their parents, Dr. Oyedepo noted that the true value of education is in creating solution, adding that there is no value to a certificate that does not add value. He said the graduates have the responsibility to create solutions to the myriad of problems plaguing Nigeria as a nation.

The Keynote Speaker, Ms. Akintomide, in her speech titled, 'Leadership by Products: The Role of Universities', said that the leadership of a University should be based on its products. These products, according to her, must include the quality of graduates released, the quality of research conducted, the knowledge determined, and the contribution to societal wellbeing and

Contd. on Pg 2

Bishop Abioye Exhorts Graduands on Preparing for the Future



The 1st Vice-President, Living Faith Church Worldwide, Pastor David Abioye, giving his charge

The 1st Vice President of the Living Faith Church Worldwide, Bishop David Abioye, has exhorted the 2017 graduating class of Covenant University on the need for them to prepare for the kind of future they desire.

He gave this exhortation on Wednesday, July 19, 2017, at a Special Convocation Service organized for the graduands as part of the 12th Convocation Ceremony of the University.

Delivering his message titled, 'Responding to the Transitions of Life', Bishop Abioye affirmed that nothing lasts beyond the level of preparation even with God, explaining that, "Preparation is the womb where greatness is prepared and anyone can predict their future by their level of preparation today. If you want to see a good future, prepare for it. The choice between being a ruler or a servant is made by levels of preparation".

He stated that the spirit of the Lord gave him this message for the graduating students, adding that in the minds of many, the students were just graduating, but in the real sense, they were

Contd. on Pg 2

Imbibe the Qualities of an Eagle, Chancellor Charges New Graduates

Members of the 2017 graduating class of Covenant University have been encouraged to acquire the qualities of an Eagle for them to be able to make the desired outstanding accomplishments and exploits in life.

The Chancellor, Covenant University, Dr. David O. Oyedepo, gave this charge to the graduates, dubbed 'The Royal Set', at the Chancellor's Special Assembly held on Friday, July 21, 2017, following the 12th Convocation Ceremony of the University.

Describing the eagle as a strong bird with the ability to carry weightier things than itself, the Chancellor stated that no eagle can develop its wings in the nest as it has to learn to fly for its wings to be developed. "No eagle will ever be made in the nest, because every eagle is born an eaglet just like every man is born a child. The eaglet must subscribe to the dreadful training of the mother eagle to emerge an eagle," he said.

Dr. Oyedepo explained further that just as you can never find a pilot without a co-pilot, the fresh graduates need a role model to play their roles well. He added that even after emerging

an eagle, the eagle still needs a period of thirty days for roosting and as such, everybody needs a mentor or he is going nowhere. He affirmed that, "The kind of training you are subjected gives you the confidence that you can dare anything".

While pointing out that the graduates must be diligent to put in their best and embrace sacrifice to go beyond their best, the

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Chancellor, Covenant University, Dr David Oyedepo, delivering his convocation speech

Dr. Oyedepo Tasks Graduating Students to Imbibe the Love of God

12th Convocation: Covenant Produces 188 First Class, 35 PhD Graduates *Contd. from Pg 1*

The Chancellor and Chairman, Board of Regents, Covenant University, Dr. David Oyedepo has charged the 12th graduating set of the University to imbibe the love of God if they desire to remain relevant and scale unimaginable heights in life.

Dr. Oyedepo gave the charge on Wednesday, July 19, 2017, at a Special Convocation Assembly held at the University Chapel to flag off activities of the 12th Convocation Ceremony of the University. The Chancellor, exhorting the audience at the packed chapel on the subject, "Platform for the Rise of Pathfinders, Pacesetters and Trailblazers", advised the students to possess a heart for God and stay in love with Him, for their uniqueness in life to be established.

He told the graduating students to hold firm to their spiritual root and see it as a thing of value, because that is the threshold of their rising in life. According to him, "loving God is the fulfilment of all of God's law, which in turn qualifies you for stardom. When you walk in the perfect love of God, you are on the launching pad to space; operating in the world of unlimited possibilities."

Dr. Oyedepo told the audience that the proof of the love of God in their heart is validated by loving God's words, His house, praying to see souls saved and promoting the advancement of His kingdom here on earth. "Every true lover is a natural giver including ministering to the poor and less privilege," he added.

He advised the graduating students to eschew pride and arrogance and avoid discarding the Core Values of the University that they have been exposed to for the past four to five years. Also, he advised them against taking advantage of negative liberty as they go into the world of work and professionalism.

In his address, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero, appreciating God, noted that the occasion was a period of taking stock of what has taken place in the past four to five years in the lives of the students and the University as a whole.

Professor Atayero noted that the University, having come a long way towards engaging in competitive and robust research activities among the very best in the world as noted by the recent feats accomplished in certain research fields, was entering a new phase of identifying new fields of research interest and making notable marks there.

The outgoing Chairman, Covenant University Students' Council, Mr. Toro-Obong Udoh, appreciated God for the grace upon the students' body, and thanked the University Management, faculty and staff for their investment in the graduating students and for the opportunity to draw from the wealth of experience Covenant University has to offer the young ones.

He challenged his colleagues to reflect on the past years and use them as foundation stones to build great pillars that would strengthen their resolve to help build a better and greater nation that would become the envy of the world.

The event afforded the Vice-Chancellor the opportunity to unveil four new substantive Principal Officers that would be serving in different capacities in the next academic session. Dr. Olumuyiwa Oludayo will be serving as the Registrar; Pastor Promise Omidiora as the University Chaplain; Dr. Gbenga Alalade as Director, Physical Planning and Development; while Dr. Jerome Idiegbeyan-Ose will be serving as the Director, Centre for Learning Resources. ■

economic development.

While asserting that effective universities will require innovative funding strategies, strategic partnerships and cooperation, and a commitment to excellence, Ms. Akintomide stated that Nigeria cannot continue to maintain the status quo in the education sector. She added that the continued creation of private universities with inadequate funding for public universities will generate inequities that will haunt the nation's future.

Earlier on, the Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Professor AAA. Atayero, in his welcome address, said that the University was graduating another set of expert thinkers and world changers rightly referred to as Eagles. The Eagles being released, he explained, have been equipped with the capacity to face the storms of life and soar on them to prominence by grace through faith.

Speaking on the series of milestones recorded by the University in the 2016/2017 Academic Session, the Vice-Chancellor said that the University, by making Research its priority, had committed itself to a continuous increase in the quality of its profile in the global community and the quality of teaching that its students enjoy from the faculty.

The high point of the event, the Award of First and Higher Degrees and Presentation of Special Awards and Prizes, was the presentation to the Chancellor a roll call of PhD graduates from the School of Postgraduate Studies and graduates with First Class Honours in Undergraduate programmes from the various Colleges and Departments.

In her response speech, the Best Graduating Student in the University, Jumoke Abisola Fasuyi, who had a 4.95 CPGA in Accounting, appreciated the privilege of representing the graduating class of 2017. She said that the transformation of the students into graduates wouldn't have been possible without God, to whom they return the glory. The graduates, she stated further, were indebted to their parents, the faculty and the school for contributing in no small measures to the 'Total Man' they have become. ■

Bishop Abioye Exhorts Graduands on Preparing for the Future *Contd. from Pg 1*

actually responding to the transitions of life.

Bishop Abioye, who emphasized preparation as a prerequisite to success in any given task, defined preparation as getting ready for a task, a work, a journey or any other adventure in life or getting ready for the future. "People fail, not because they don't have a talent, but because they failed to prepare adequately. A failure likes nothing but enjoyment," he opined.

The minister further stated that preparation entails catching a vision, which in this sense, means capturing a picture of your future and building positive imagination and attitude. The number one gift of God, he said, is the gift of vision and the only thing that can be restrained from you is what you have not imagined.

"You cannot see great vision and remain small. Vision is what destroys smallness and empowers you to endure in the affairs of life; vision is the fountain of joy; it's not what you have that makes you smile, it's what you see that makes you smile. What you see determines your attitude to life," he stated.

He also advised the graduands to imbibe the habit of planning as part of preparation for a great future, saying, "Upon catching a picture of your future, you have to plan for it. It's never too late to plan; if you don't plan early in life, you'll suffer later in life. Never imagine that you are too young to plan, your plan determines your stand. It is what you plan in the night that will determine

your day".

Bishop Abioye said that the benefits of preparation include the fact that opportunities are in search of a prepared man, such that when opportunity meets with preparation, success is inevitable. Opportunities, he pointed out, will automatically come to one who is prepared.

He warned the graduands of the danger of living a pretentious life, stating that the only set of people Jesus condemned were hypocrites, folks who pretend to be who they are not. ■

Imbibe the Qualities of an Eagle, Chancellor Charges New Graduates *Contd. from Pg 1*

Chancellor advised them to focus on being great citizens of Nigeria as it is great people that make a great nation and the new graduates are the emerging great people.

He encouraged them to be guided by the Lord and not by their inordinate ambition. "Don't be a spiritual or career wandering star. God has a place for you. Your star is not only in you, your star is in your assignment. You're not a king outside your field; locate your field and settle down there. Five percent of people make things happen, 25 percent watch things happen, while a whopping 70 percent don't know if anything is happening," he stated.

Dr. Oyedepo emphasized that if the graduates must soar, they need to generate enough ground power for take-off. "They that walk, walk with many; they that run, run with a few but they that fly, fly alone. Never mind challenges, they are the platform for making a champion. Never mind the take-off challenge, every start-up must face a challenge," he asserted.

Also at the event were the Vice-Chancellor, Professor AAA. Atayero; the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Shalom Chinedu; the Registrar, Dr. Olumuyiwa Oludayo; the Chaplain, Pastor Promise Omidiora; and other members of the University Management team. ■