Greetings

Mr Coordinator, after listening to the Will to Rise, yesterday, this morning I want to submit that to achieve the intended goal of initiating a Purpose Driven Change, which is what I will call the New Church. John Maxwell in his Book Thinking for a Change says, "one of the reasons people don’t achieve their dreams is that they desire to change their results without changing their thought", which what Albert Einstein calls, insanity, people who do the same thing the same way but expect different results, Its Insane!

We can’t avoid change, Social scientist have submitted that Change is the only constant in the world and truth is, today’s change is not slow and incremental, It is fast, complex, chaotic, discontinuous. But I also submit Friends that Change can be stressful and uncertain, change can be Unpredictable. Whenever I want to apply change in my life, I find Courage in the knowledge that the God we worship is more about change, see, I make all things new, and that we are in the Potters House.

There is a need to initiate a Purpose Driven Change because we live in an Era of Change:

- Modernity( Semanjemanje, Materialism)
- Post Modernity (Multiple Identities, World Wide Web)
- Universalism (No absolute Truth)
- Technology
- Political climate

On the basis of these realities and many other not mentioned here, I want to submit that we need a New Church with a New Perspective, Let Us Read the Word of God. John 21:1-14.
This morning we encounter Jesus’ disciples at the Sea of Tiberius, they are (Peter, Thomas, Nathaniel, James and John and two unnamed disciples), and they are here per invitation. In Matthew 28:7 and Mark 16:7 we are told that when Jesus had resurrected, the Angel gave a message to the three women, to “… go quickly and tell Jesus disciples that ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of them into Galilee, and there they will see him”. Among these disciples was Peter, the man who had denied Jesus three times before the crucifixion.

The gospels tell us that Jesus was to wait for his disciples in Galilee following his resurrection. Where exactly in Galilee he was to waiting we are not told.

Because Galilee had become the common place for Jesus and his team there can be no doubt that the disciples knew where Jesus would possibly wait for them. The place is Capernaum,

- a village town not very far from the Sea of Galilee.
- It is said that Capernaum was the harbor village of the Sea of Galilee.
- It was in Capernaum that the economy of the region of Galilee had its base.
- It was the city known for its fishing spree and its well experienced fishermen whose families depended on the plentiful fish from the Sea of Galilee.
- It was in this Region, where most of Jesus Disciples came from

So Peter and his fellow disciples acted upon Jesus’ instruction and went to Capernaum. However when they got there Jesus was not present. They waited and waited and waited and Jesus did not arrive. We are not told why Jesus took so long to arrive at the place where the disciples were waiting for him. My hermeneutics of suspicion tells me that the disciples would have thought to themselves. The women told us that the Angel told them we should come here and we would find Jesus waiting for us. We have been waiting and Jesus is not arriving. Friends I want to suggest that we need to develop a new Spirituality in our Church.

We live in an Era of Instant Gratification

- Instant Yeast
- Instant Custard
• Instant Pap
• Instant Millionaires
• Instant master’s degree

Society teaches that you can have it here and now but i call that Fast Food Spirituality, Ice Cream Theology. There is a culture of people failing to wait for the right time, we are just grabbing and looting everything that is before us, and that leaves us morally bankrupt. Instant Gratification produces John and James syndrome

• the urgency to occupy the top table
• Culture of asking for power and Position
• Destroys the culture of Calling and serving

In Psychology the call it Deferred Gratification, I want to call it, Spirituality of waiting requires

• impulse control,
• will power,
• self-control

We must suspect that as they waited Peter kept looking at the Sea of Galilee and saw people busy fishing and making a livelihood for themselves and families. Peter must have he remembered his former trade and thought to himself I can still to it, ‘I can still go back where Jesus found me’. So Peter reaches a decision and says to his fellow disciples: ‘I am going back fishing’. So Thomas, Nathaniel, James and John and two unnamed disciples decided to join him

Situational/ Contextual Analysis

Scholars agree that Peter and his friends did just go to any spot in the Sea, in his Book, The Great Fishing Stories ever told, Gordon Frenz says, they went to their favorite spot, There was a particular place called Tabgha, on the North West Coast of the Sea of Galilee.
Tabgha

- It is said that Tabgha has seven springs with very warm and favourable temperatures reaching up to 30 degrees C. The springs on the Sea of Galilee, are filled with lovely flowers and abundant shade trees (see Jim Gerrish, *Tabgha – The Old Fishing Hole*).
- It was here at Tabgha that the miracles of the loaves and fishes took place.
- Therefore Tabgha was not just a place of natural beauty but also a place of miracles.
- Because of the warm springs tropical fish of all kinds would migrate to Tabgha in big numbers.

It was Night

- Good fishermen and women are those who would go at night and cast their nets.
- This is so because fish does not see at night, so they would not see the nets and this makes it impossible for them to escape. Please note that the context of this particular catch as related to us by the gospel of John is daylight when the fish clearly see the net.

In the Morning Jesus standing by the Sea ask them, Friends did you catch anything, and they answer, NO

- There is Fish in the Sea but no Catch
- These are skilled Fisher Man, but no Catch
- The time is on their Side but still no Catch

The Fish is in the Water but Old Fishing Methods don’t work, I guess that is why we need to INITIATE A PURPOSE DRIVEN CHANGE

To Catch Fish, we need Change perspective, change our Methods and our behavior. I want to make an Observation which I will later deal with, are you aware that Jesus’ calling of the disciple was Fishers of People? Not drivers of the Boat that Fish! We’ll come back to this.

We need a new Perspective, I will Call it the Jesus Perspective, My Grandfather used to say, lo busy ka dilo tsa Modimo mme ga lo re sepe ka Modimo wa tsona
Then Jesus says “**Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.**”(v. 6), **Throw the Net from my Perspective**.

**The right hand side**, a place highly valued and highly regarded a place of importance.

- O dutse mo letsogong le tona la Modimo Rara
- The Crucified Criminal was on the right
- When Abraham was to Bless Jacob, he said come to my right hand site
- After the Poor Lazarus Died, the rich man saw him sitting on the right hand site of God
- The Jesus Perspective is the right Perspective!

The Jesus Perspective makes a catch at an unexpected TIME! Night versus Day!

And the net is not TORN

Methods of Fishing, there are two popularly known methods of fishing, Rod Fishing and Net Fishing

1. **Rod Fishing**

- Catching a single fish at a time vary on quality control considerations.
- The first method involves the use of a rod and bait,
- Works by attracting the type of fish that likes that sort of bait.
- Choose the right Water, otherwise if the bait is too popular, Fish will not just catch.
- There is no personal involvement, mainly reserved as a Hobby and for lazy people

Net Fishing

- Net-fishing involves much strain, long hours.
- Net-fishing is labor intensive.
- Net-Fishing requires that fishermen cast their nets into the sea or drop the nets into the water from the boat.
• Net-fishing involves a continuous washing of the nets and a continuous examinations of the nets to see where they need to be fixed and prepared for a better catch.

Please Note that whereas Rod Fishing Catches one Fish at a Time, Net Fishing catches all kinds of fish.

Behavior

Lastly: The behaviour of the fishermen and women on the boat is also critical for an effective catch.

• We are not called to Drive the Boat: Power Struggle will consume this Church
• We are called to catch the Fish, it is Jesus who prepares the Fish.

Friends let me conclude by saying that the World and the communities in which God has placed us is like the Sea of Galilee, like the springs of Tabgha. It is place of great possibilities. The church is the fishing boat and the Gospel is the fishing net that embraces all. And members of the church are fisher men and women.

The Sea, the boat, the fishermen and women make a great combination for a Great Catch.