

Apostle Michael Orokpo



FOURTH CLASS IN THE SCHOOL OF PROCESS: CLASS OF SELF-DENIAL

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The School of Self-Denial

By Apostle Michael Orokpo

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For Kingdom impact worldwide.



Foreword

There are lessons God teaches a man that cannot be learned in a classroom, through books, or by human experience alone. They are learned through process.

The School of Process is one of those divine classrooms where God deals with the heart, removes what must be removed, builds what must be built, and prepares a man for the weight of what He intends to place upon his life.

*In this class, Apostle Orokpo Michael takes us into one of the most important and often misunderstood lessons in the journey of spiritual maturity: **self-denial**.*

Self-denial is more than refusing certain pleasures or making personal sacrifices. It is the grace to recognize that whatever God does through a man must ultimately return to God in glory. It is the ability to carry God's power without taking God's place. It is knowing how to receive honor without allowing honor to destroy the heart.

This message confronts one of the greatest dangers that can come after success: the temptation to take the glory that belongs to God.

A man may survive opposition and still be destroyed by honor. He may overcome battles and later fall because of the glory that came from his victories. He may begin by depending completely on God and eventually begin to believe that his results are the product of his own strength, experience, wisdom, or spiritual capacity.

This is why the lesson of self-denial is so important.

*Throughout this book, Apostle Orokpo Michael repeatedly brings us back to a simple but profound truth: **God must remain the source, the sustainer, and the recipient of the glory.***

The examples of Moses, Paul, Jesus, and Lucifer help us see the seriousness of this lesson. Moses had extraordinary authority, yet he knew that God's presence was more important than his ability. Paul was greatly used by God, yet he understood that his continuation was by the help of God. Jesus did not need to prove His identity to the devil or to men. And Lucifer's fall reminds us of what happens when a created being begins to look at God's glory and desire it for himself.

There is therefore a warning in this message, but there is also an invitation.

The invitation is to become the kind of vessel God can trust with influence, power, honor, resources, and spiritual impact without allowing those things to become idols.

As you read this book, do not read it merely as a sermon transcript. Read it as a mirror.

Allow the Holy Spirit to search your heart.

Ask yourself:

What do I do when God gives me influence?

How do I respond when people honor me?

Can God receive the glory for what He does through me?

Am I becoming more dependent on God or more confident in myself?

Can God trust me with more without losing me to what He gives me?

These are not small questions. They are questions that can determine the longevity of a man's relevance in the Kingdom.

At LivingSermons.com, our burden is to preserve and make available messages that can continue speaking to generations beyond the moment in which they were preached. This book is part of that vision. What was spoken in a meeting has now been

carefully preserved in written form so that readers can return to these truths, study them, meditate on them, and allow them to shape their walk with God.

Our editorial work has been to preserve the voice and burden of Apostle Orokpo Michael while presenting the message in a clear and readable form. The goal is not to replace the preacher's voice, but to help that voice travel further through the written word.

May this book do more than inform you.

May it bring you into the school.

May God teach you how to carry His glory without taking it.

May He teach you how to receive honor without being destroyed by it.

May He give you the grace to remain a servant even when He calls you great.

And may your life continually point back to the One from whom all glory comes.

To God alone be all the glory.

— Wisdom Epsi

Chief Editor, LivingSermons.com

Table of Contents

Foreword

Publisher's Note

Main Message

Begins Here

Introduction

Do Not Live Like a Lion

Become Great in the Kingdom

God Checks

Experience Is Weakness

God Calls You a Servant

What Happened to Lucifer?

How to Channel the Glory

Don't Make a Point

About the Speaker

About Living Sermons

Join Our Team

We Are Social

Publisher's Note

This book is a faithful transcript of a live sermon delivered by the preacher under the inspiration and unction of the Holy Spirit. Every effort has been made to preserve the preacher's exact words, tone, flow, and spiritual authority, while carefully proofreading and formatting the message into a clear and readable ebook format.

The message you are about to read was originally ministered in a live congregational setting. As such, it carries the weight, urgency, and atmosphere of that sacred gathering. Minor grammatical and structural adjustments have been made solely to enhance readability, without altering the substance, intent, or power of the original delivery.

Watch the live sermon from which this message was transcribed on YouTube at the [**Apostle Michael Orokpo Official Channel**](#)

Livingsermons.com does not claim ownership of this message. All spiritual credit and ministerial authority belong to the preacher through whom the Word was delivered. Our role is that of stewards and editors—serving the Body of Christ by preserving and distributing life-giving messages in accessible digital formats.

Our commitment is excellence without dilution.

Our standard is reverence for the Word of God.

Our daily goal is to transform powerful live sermons into polished PDF and ebook editions for the edification of the Body of Christ.

It is our prayer that as you read, the same grace, conviction, clarity, and impartation present in the live service will minister to you afresh.

— ***Livingsermons.com***

A Spirit-led Publishing Stewardship

Main Message

Begins Here



Introduction

The fourth school I told us is the school of self-denial. When a man's heart has been processed, he will learn what we call self-denial. Self-denial is the ability a man sustains to channel the glory to God.

There are many people that lack the ability to channel the glory to God. If you have not gone to the school of service, you can't pass the school of self-denial, because in the school of service, everything was taken away from you before it was given back to you.

So when it is eventually given back to you, you will know it's not for you. You know this one belongs to God.

So you can come for a meeting, the dead will come back to life, you will give the glory to God. You will not walk up—Have you seen us? When we are faced with a challenge, you are coming up like a lamb because you are trusting God to help you.

When you eventually came up and God moved mightily, when you are leaving the stage, do not live like a lion.

CHAPTER ONE

Do Not Live Like a Lion

Some of you have not served; you don't know what I'm saying.

When the guy is faced with something, he is humble. The moment God releases His glory, he now wants to show that he is him.

He will now start telling you how that he fasted for five years.

"And when I was fasting for five years, I knew that this would happen. You were in trouble, so it's because of your fasting that you are raising the dead."

Do you know those who fasted and died?

It will come when the power of God moves, you now say, "I prayed in tongues for twelve hours, and because I prayed in tongues for twelve hours, this thing, I know it must happen."

Ah! So it's because of what you do that what happens happens?

That mercy drop you have seen, that's where you will stop.

I'm sure you want to become great in the Kingdom, so that you will keep rising and rising and rising.

Whether you are in business or you are in ministry, it doesn't matter.

Become Great in the Kingdom

When you see men who cannot be stopped, these are the secrets they know. You see people like—he still comes to the altar and lies down, and when it's done, he goes quietly, as if he was not the one that spoke.

And this is a man that organized a service and nine million people were gathered. He's about to celebrate eighty years by now, and they have an eight-million-soul project. At eighty, you are still winning eight million souls. What kind of greatness is that?

Meanwhile, this man has been on the scene for forty years. They don't know how to go down.

It's not because they are anointed, because some of them, if you check their life, you can't know the gift you will point out.

Because what causes men to rise in this Kingdom is bigger than a gift.

Even a babalawo can give a gift, but greatness comes from God and the things God checks.

God Checks

These are the things He looks at. Don't be quick to ascribe glory to yourself. You must learn the ways of self-denial. Men want to put it on you—refuse. Then they want to clap you into failure—refuse.

Because it's not only battle that brings men down. Even glory brings men down. Because of the little thing you have done, men want to deceive you, to make you feel you are the best. There is no best in this Kingdom. All of us are serving to the degree that God has helped us.

When Paul was summarizing his ministry, he said, "I've continued to this day because God has helped me."

Don't come into the business world and say, "No, we are masters. You are masters."

You don't know that decision you are taking is an inspiration. A spirit is given to you. The day you assume it is because of your mastery, the Spirit will be drawing His inspiration, and then you will discover that experience is weakness in the game of the spirit.

Because no matter how experienced you are, these guys are ancient. They existed before time. You can't outdo them with experience.

CHAPTER TWO

Experience Is Weakness

You are immediately—God shows you little mercy. Five people gather, and then you stand up and say, "No! Ah! We came to take over this city."

Do you know what we came with? Do you know how many pastors are in that city? Do you know how many people prophesy? Do you know how many people raise the dead in that city?

Instead of you to kneel down and preserve your greatness, you stand up and act as God. And the moment you do it, God withdraws. And the moment God withdraws, we are in trouble.

This is what Moses knew.

Moses brought down Egypt with his staff. Only one man—he brought down Egypt. God Himself told Moses, "I have made you a god."

But Moses never described himself as God. "I have made you a god." Exodus 7:1.

When God came to him and said an angel will go with you, Moses fell on his face.

"If You don't go with us, we will not go from here."

I don't ever want to take Your place.

"If You don't go with us, we will not go from here."

God Calls You a Servant

Paul entered the city. When Paul preached, the whole people in the city bowed down and wanted to worship him.

They said, "The gods have come among them."

Instantly, they thought they were gods. Quickly, they corrected them. They said, "We are only servants."

You call me a god so that I will stop today?

God calls you a god; we call ourselves a servant. That's how it works.

Because everything happening with you is God walking on your inside.

And so you must learn to channel the glory to Him.

When a man understands the principle of sustenance, one of the things he masters is self-denial.

You will never catch him taking honor or glory for anything he does.

Anytime you want to praise him, he says, "God."

Anytime you want to honor him, he says, "God."

You see a man who is about to be destroyed; he wants to take the glory.

And the moment he takes the glory, God allows him. "Since you are self-sufficient, flow."

Let's see. And then you will know what happened to Lucifer before he fell.

God designed him so glorious, and the point came, Lucifer told himself, "Come on. What does God have that I don't have? What does this God have that I don't have?"

"I will exalt my throne."

What Happened to Lucifer?

The school of self-denial—these are the things that make men eternally relevant.

I can assure you that most of the success you have, you will qualify for it, but it will take that edge of God to establish you.

Because that thing you are doing, you will find two, three, four, five, six, ten people that are doing it better than you.

You won't know why it's always you.

It's you because God says so.

Never make the mistake of thinking it is because you are too competent. If you meet competent people, you will be humbled. You say you are preaching; that's why you are popular. There are men that, if they open the Scripture, it's like honey. You will hear them for weeks. It's like honey. But nobody appreciates what they carry.

And then there's somebody else who is just shouting, shouting, and the whole world is looking for him. He's touching millions of lives, and you are wondering, "What is this guy talking?"

It's not about what he's talking. It's about the Spirit that is using him as a theatre.

The man knows how to channel the glory.

How to Channel the Glory

If you know how to channel the glory, God will spend Himself on you generously because there will be no contention.

Did you not read that He is a jealous God?

School of Process.

Many times, God will test you with honor.

Many times, God will test you with power.

Many times, God will touch you with glory to see what you will do with it.

If you don't go through the classes of self-denial, you will fail. The first time I started travelling, I just sensed that every money they gave me, I shouldn't touch it. I will go and pray to give you an audio.

Don't Make a Point

Mr. Victor is aware. I paid the one already on together, and I went and knelt down and sowed it to my father-in-law. I don't know if I have the right to start spending on the radio. Don't bother about yourself.

Forget God is your glory. Don't try to make a point. Even when people undermine you, just relax. Don't show them you have something. Leave them.

It is God that glorifies man.

When He shows up, He will do it with style.

The devil came to Jesus and said, "If You are the Son of God, turn these stones to bread."

Jesus didn't need to prove a point.

But when Jesus died and was buried, the way God proved that He's His Son is that He raised Him back from the dead.

You don't need to prove a point.

When they say anything, just leave them.

When God glorifies you, He will not only do it for that moment; He will keep you there.

That's how men are preserved.

It's a class in the school of process—self-denial.

Sometimes, for years, God will not let you take anything that is given to you, be it money, be it honor, be it influence.

They will keep giving you money; God will tell you, "Give it to somebody else."

They will honor you; God will say, "Don't take it."

And then you are wondering, "Why then are You allowing this thing to come my way?"

He's trying to preserve you.

Many people don't understand self-denial, so they take God's glory.

And the moment they take it, God begins to resist them.



About the Speaker

Apostle Michael Orokpo is a Nigerian apostolic teacher and revivalist widely known for his depth in the Word of God and his strong emphasis on spiritual formation, priesthood, and kingdom influence. He serves as the lead minister of **Encounter Jesus Ministries International**, a ministry committed to raising believers who encounter Christ genuinely and live out the reality of His kingdom in everyday life.

Through conferences, leadership gatherings, and intensive teaching meetings across Africa and beyond, Apostle Orokpo has consistently called the Church to move beyond superficial Christianity into deeper consecration, spiritual intelligence, and transformational leadership. His teachings frequently emphasise the believer's authority in Christ, the responsibility of spiritual gatekeeping, and the need for men and women who can stand as watchmen over territories, systems, and nations according to the purposes of God.



About Living Sermons

Living Sermons is a Spirit-led publishing platform dedicated to transforming timeless messages of God's servants into books that can reach and impact lives across the world.

Our mission is simple: to preserve the wisdom, revelation, and anointing carried in the preached Word and make it accessible in formats that can be studied, shared, and revisited for generations. By turning sermons into high-quality Christian books and eBooks, we extend the life and influence of each message far beyond the pulpit.

At Living Sermons, we believe that the preached Word is living and powerful (Hebrews 4:12). Every sermon carries truth that can instruct, comfort, rebuke, inspire, and transform. Our role is to faithfully capture these words, polish them for clarity and readability, and present them in a way that maintains the preacher's unique voice and anointing.

Through our work, messages that might otherwise be heard once are preserved as lasting resources for teaching, devotion, discipleship, and evangelism. These books are designed not just for reading but for equipping believers, strengthening families, and advancing the Kingdom of God.

Living Sermons—*the preached Word in lasting form.*



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At **Livingsermons.com**, our mission is to ensure that sermons inspired by the Holy Spirit are accessible in written form for study, meditation, and reference by believers around the world. This work is growing, and we can't do it alone.

We are inviting passionate believers to volunteer in any of these roles:

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- **Transcribers** – Convert sermon recordings into accurate transcripts.
- **Editors** – Refine transcripts into polished, readable eBooks.
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If you feel led to serve in any of these roles, please reach out through our [Volunteer Page](#) on Livingsermons.com. Together, let's spread the knowledge of Christ to the nations.

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