

Pastor David Ibiyeomie



THE CHAMPION'S MINDSET

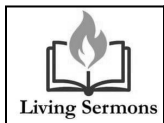
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The Champion's Mindset

Preacher: Pastor David Ibiyeomie

Publisher: LivingSermons.com

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Foreword

There are messages that inform, and there are messages that awaken. The Champion's Mindset belongs to the latter category.

From the opening lines, this sermon confronts the believer with a foundational truth of Scripture: life in Christ is not designed for passivity or limitation, but for dominion, growth, and victorious living. It is a call to re-examine how we think, how we respond, and how we interpret the challenges of life.

At the heart of this message is a recurring emphasis on the mind. The preacher draws a clear line between possibility and limitation, showing that many of life's boundaries are not enforced by circumstance, but by internal belief systems. In simple yet forceful terms, the sermon redirects attention to the inward man—the place where destiny is shaped long before it is seen.

What makes this message particularly compelling is its balance between Scripture and real-life illustration. From biblical narratives such as Joseph, Abraham, and David, to contemporary examples of discipline and perseverance, the listener is consistently brought back to one central conclusion: champions are formed, not found.

This is not a message of hype, but of formation. It speaks to the necessity of discipline, the power of vision, and the non-negotiable requirement of a renewed mind. It challenges comfort, interrupts excuses, and calls the believer into a higher standard of thinking and living.

As you read through these pages, may you not merely encounter inspiration, but transformation. May your thinking be reshaped, your vision enlarged, and your resolve strengthened. And may the Spirit of God breathe upon these words, turning revelation into lifestyle.

This publication is presented to you by LivingSermons.com as part of our mandate to preserve and project kingdom teaching in a structured, readable, and enduring format.

May you rise into the reality of what God has already declared over your life.

In His service,

— Wisdom Epsi
Chief Editor, LivingSermons.com

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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 @ [Salvation Ministries YouTube Channel](#)

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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.

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Main Message

Begins Here



Introduction

The champion's mindset.

God created us to be champions.

The Bible declares in **Romans 8:37**:

"Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."

God did not say you *will be*; He said you *are*.

Jesus said in **Matthew 5:14**:

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid."

He also said:

"Ye are the salt of the earth..." — **Matthew 5:13**

And in **Matthew 5:16**:

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

By redemption, you have been programmed to be a champion.

The Church is not the building. The Church is you and I.

The Scripture says in **Isaiah 2:2**:

“And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established in the top of the mountains...”

That means we become the pace-setters, trailblazers, and pathfinders to the world.

God said we would become so enviable that people would look at us and desire what we carry.

And you are the one God is talking about.

Who Is a Champion?

In the context of definition, a champion is one who competes and wins. A champion is someone who thinks, reacts, and grows no matter the circumstances. A champion is not someone who never falls, but someone who refuses to stay down.

Champions never quit.

The secret of champions is their refusal to quit trying. When champions lose or make mistakes, they ask themselves: **“What can I do better next time?”**

They keep improving. They keep making progress. Because a champion is someone who never stops, no matter the challenges of life. The Bible says in **Proverbs 4:18**:

“But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.”

I see you making progress.

Losing Does Not Make You a Loser

One loss does not mean you are a loser. In the last World Cup, Argentina lost their first match to Saudi Arabia. It became headline news. But they continued with the champion's mindset and went on to win the tournament. Today, nobody remembers the first loss.

What they remember is this: **Argentina are world champions.**

A champion may lose, but a champion never remains a loser. You will win after now in the name of Jesus.

What Is a Champion's Mindset?

A champion's mindset is the thinking pattern that positions a person for victory, excellence, and dominion.

It is not something you are born with. You train yourself to become a champion. Nobody is born a champion. You do not wish to become a champion. You train yourself to become one. There are many qualities of champions, but I will take three.

1. They Have a Winning Mentality

A champion is first made in the mind. Every extraordinary life begins with an extraordinary way of thinking. When your mind changes, your life changes. You cannot transform your life without transforming your mind.

Romans 12:2 says:

“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind...”

When your mind is renewed, your life will be transformed.

Change the way you think.

Say to yourself:

“I can make it.”

Champions are not defined by their circumstances, but by their mentality.

The Bible says in **Proverbs 23:7**:

“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he...”

Champions refuse to accept limitations.

They do not accept ceilings over their lives.

The Twelve Spies: Two Winners, Ten Victims

In **Numbers 13**, twelve spies were sent to spy the land.

It was a land flowing with milk and honey.

A land God had already promised them.

But only two had a winning mentality.

Ten had a victim mentality.

Do not follow the crowd.

Majority is not always right.

There are cases where the majority are failures.

Champions do not follow the crowd.

They follow what God has told them they will become.

Winners talk about possibilities.

Losers talk about problems.

Young people, never sit where people discuss problems.

Sit where people discuss possibilities.

Winners talk about opportunities.

Losers talk about obstacles.

David Saw Opportunity in Goliath

Everybody saw Goliath as a problem. David saw Goliath as an opportunity. That is champion mentality. May you see opportunity in every Goliath.

Champions do not deny problems. They simply refuse to surrender to them. Things may be tough, but you must become tougher.

Joseph: A Winning Mindset in Adversity

Look at Joseph. He was betrayed by his brothers. Sold into slavery. Falsely accused. Thrown into prison. But he never gave up. He maintained a winning mindset. That is the difference.

Talk positive.

Think positively.

Guard your thoughts aggressively. Anything contrary to God's Word must not be allowed to stay in your mind. Anything God's Word does not say, do not accept it. I pray today, whatever is planted in your mind contrary to God's Word, I cast it out in Jesus' name.

Winning First in the Mind

When I came to Port Harcourt, pastors told me: **“Sir, nobody makes it here.”**

They said people do not go to church here. But I came with a champion’s mindset.

I said:

“If they do not go to church now, when I come, they will go.”

That is champion mentality. You cannot be declared a champion until you first win in your mind.

If you fail there, you fail in life.

If you win there, you win in life.

Everything begins in the mind. I saw myself as a giver to nations.

I said: **“I will give to Americans.”**

And today, by God’s grace, it has come to pass. Where did it begin?

In my mind.

Touch your head and say:

“Wake up.”

Agree with the Word of God.

I see somebody here paying people in their own currency.

Today they employ you.

Tomorrow, they will work for you.

That is how champions think.

2. They Have Big Dreams

Champions have big dreams. In **Genesis 13:14–15**, God said to Abraham:

“Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art...”

From where you are now, see where you are going. See where you want to become. As far as your eyes can see, God can deliver. This is not physical sight.

It is the eyes of your mind. Today you may be seeking a job, but see yourself employing others. Today you may live in one room, but see yourself building houses. Today your offering may be fifty naira, but see yourself giving fifty million.

Lift up your eyes.

As far as you can see, you can reach. Without dreams, you place limits on what God can do. Dream is the lifewire of success. A person with a dream knows what to give up in order to go up. Champions refuse to quit because they see the big picture.

They live with the future in mind. You will never leave where you are until you decide where you want to be. A dream is a mental picture from Scripture of the future you want to feature in.

Dream Big

From the beginning, I saw myself speaking to the world. When there was no internet, I already saw it. A local television station invited me. They asked me to take opening and closing prayer.

I refused. Not pride. Vision.

I knew God had called me to speak to the world. At that time, the church was not up to one hundred people. But I had a dream.

Young men, young women:

Dream big.

It is never too late to dream. To be dreamless is to be doomed. Abraham started at seventy-five. Moses at eighty.

Jesus began ministry at thirty.

Joseph rose at thirty.

So wherever you are, it is not too late.

Your dream must be accomplished.

3. They Value Discipline

Champions value discipline.

Discipline is the ability to make yourself do what you should do, when you should do it, whether you feel like it or not.

That is discipline.

1 Corinthians 9:27 says:

“But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection...”

Discipline means telling your body what to do.

Even when your body wants rest.

Even when you feel tired.

Even when you do not feel like it.

You deny yourself immediate gratification because of the future you see.

That is discipline.

Champions do what they hate to get what they want. They differentiate between what matters and what does not. You can never become a champion without discipline. Discipline enables you to persist until you become a champion. Many people admire greatness, but few understand the discipline behind it.

Take Michael Jordan.

Before becoming one of the greatest basketball players of all time, he was once rejected from his high school basketball team.

They told him: **“You are not qualified.”**

But instead of quitting, he used the rejection as motivation. That is the mindset of a champion. If they ever tell you “no,” do not get angry.

Go and work harder. Then rise to the point where the same people who rejected you will need you. That is proof of growth.

Jordan’s mother once said he would wake up very early before school just to practise basketball. His routine included early morning workouts, practising after school, and repeating the same shots hundreds of times.

He missed more than 9,000 shots in his career. He lost almost 300 games. He missed 26 game-winning shots. Yet, those failures became the training ground that sharpened him. At retirement, he had won:

- Six NBA Championships
- Six NBA Finals MVP Awards
- Ten NBA Scoring Titles
- Multiple Most Valuable Player awards

Behind every victory are thousands of sacrifices. Behind every star, there is a scar.

Champions Wake Up While Others Sleep

A champion wakes up when others are sleeping. A champion practises when others are relaxing. Look at Cristiano Ronaldo.

Even in his forties, he is still playing football and scoring goals. That is discipline.

That is hunger.

That is what keeps champions going.

Do not stay around people who kill your drive.

Stay around people who inspire you.

There are people whose lives challenge you to rise.

That is important.

Closeness is not just about physical proximity.

It is about inspiration.

Some people may never meet me physically, but they are inspired by what they see.

And that inspiration stirs something inside them.

Do not hang around negative voices.

Do not stay with people who tell you nothing works.

If they say Nigeria is not working, ask them:

“Where is working?”

A champion refuses to quit.

Refuse to Quit

No matter the challenge, refuse to quit. The first person I prayed for who had HIV did not get healed immediately. For six months, I kept praying.

I kept fasting.

I kept believing.

At first, the result remained positive. But I refused to stop. Then after six months, it turned negative. Another time, I prayed and the person died.

But I still refused to give up. That is the life of a champion. Today, people get healed instantly. But what if I had given up?

Try again. If it does not work, try again. If they knock you down, get back up. That is champion mentality.

Champions Carry a Different Mindset

Look at Serena Williams. She won a tournament while pregnant. That is extraordinary. Champions think differently. They function differently. They see beyond limitations.

I challenge you:

Before this time next month, may there be a revolution in your life.

What have I said?

- Have a winning mentality.
- Have big dreams.
- Be disciplined.

These three will set you apart.

Champions Always Rise Again

Look at Donald Trump.

He won one election.

Lost another.

Then came back again. That is how champions operate. Champions do not stop because of one failure. If you fail in business, go back. If you fail an exam, write it again.

Tell yourself:

“This time, I must pass.”

And what is inside you will come out.

Breaking Mental Strongholds

Before I pray for you, you must pray for yourself. Destroy every stronghold the enemy has planted in your mind.

The Bible says in **Philippians 2:10**:

“That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow...”

And in **2 Corinthians 10:5**:

“Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God...”

Anything limiting your life may have come through words.

Maybe from parents.

Maybe from society.

Maybe from repeated failures.

Voices saying:

“You will never succeed.”

Those voices must be broken.

Some people are limited because of what they have heard all their lives. But today, every limiting voice is silenced in Jesus’ name. It is not government limiting you.

It is not the economy limiting you.

It is your mind.

God can give you a big dream, but if your mind remains small, you cannot carry it. Your mind must agree with God.

Break every stronghold.

Cast down every limitation.

It Starts from the Mind

I once told a young man to stop working for others and start his own.

He listened.

He shifted his thinking.

He opened his own bank.

Today that institution is growing.

Where did it begin?

Not with money.

It began in the mind. It is not about how much you have. It is about how much you can see. Uber has no cars. Yet Uber runs globally. Many hotel brands do not own the buildings. They operate by vision and systems. It all starts in the mind. And you are of the Abrahamic covenant.

The Abrahamic Blessing

Galatians 3:13–14 says:

“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law... that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ...”

If the blessing of Abraham is upon you, you cannot remain average. That blessing announces men to the world.

I decree:

The days of obscurity are over. After today, the world will hear about you.

Prophetic Release

The Holy Ghost is placing a word in my heart. Ideas rule the world.

I pray for you:

May a creative idea drop into your spirit. An idea that will shake your generation. Receive it now in the name of Jesus. Between now and the next meeting, may God inspire you. May He give you courage to take steps. No one under the sound of my voice will remain average. Even as students, many of you will employ others before graduation.

The yoke is broken. You will rise and shine. In Jesus' name.

Salvation Call

You cannot enjoy the Abrahamic covenant if you are not in Christ. The Bible says in **2 Corinthians 5:17**:

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature...”

If you have not accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, pray this prayer:

Lord Jesus,

come into my life.

I accept You as my personal Lord and Saviour.

I believe in my heart that You died and rose again to save me.

Now with my mouth, I declare You as Lord over my life.

Thank You, Father, for saving me.

In Jesus’ name. Amen.

Closing Blessing

May the grace to put into practice what you have heard today rest upon you. No one who hears this message will remain average. The world will hear about you.

In Jesus’ mighty name.

Amen.



About the Speaker

David Ibiyeomie is a Nigerian pastor and founder of Salvation Ministries, based in Port Harcourt. He is known for teaching prosperity, faith, and practical Christian living, often emphasising results, discipline, and personal responsibility. His messages are direct, repetitive for emphasis, and aimed at producing visible change in the lives of listeners.

His ministry has grown into one of the largest church networks in Nigeria, with a strong media presence and large congregations. He is also recognised as a protégé of David Oyedepo, which reflects in his doctrinal leanings and teaching style.

Critically, his teachings attract both strong followership and scrutiny—especially around prosperity themes—but his influence in Nigerian Pentecostal circles is significant and undeniable. In simple terms: he is a results-driven preacher whose message centres on identity in Christ, faith, and material and spiritual dominion.



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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.

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