Let us go on.....
....to perfection

In May 2018, we felt it was time to start something new

We bought a house which we planned to demolish and rebuild

Our experience thus far in the rebuilding project reminded me of what it means

to be converted and

be a born-again Christian and

then to move forward with God

The Steps involved.....

## Rebuilding Project



### ANALOGY

Demolish an old house to rebuild a new house

The journey a person undertakes when he believes and accepts
Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord and becomes a Christian

## **Scriptural Text**

Background:

**John 3:3** 

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except a man be born again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God

John 3:6,7

That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

2 Cor 5:17

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away, behold, all things are become new

What are the steps to be Converted
Born Again and
Move on with God?

## **Scriptural Text**

Act 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord

When a person takes that step, <u>the process</u> of renewal (Born-again) and life's transformation has started

Hebrew 6:1-3 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, *let us go on* unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,

Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

And this will we (the church) do, if God permit.

# Foundational Principles of the Doctrine on Christ

**The process** of rebuilding our lives according to God's design

- 1) Repentance from dead works
- 2) Faith toward God
- 3) Doctrine of baptisms
- 4) Laying on of hands
- 5) Resurrection of the dead
- 6) Eternal judgment
- 7) Perfection

Eph 4:14 "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, ...."

### ANALOGY

Demolish and Rebuild a House = Foundational Principles of the Doctrine of CHRIST



### Step 1

Demolish old house,
Conduct earthworks,
Prepare to lay new foundation
=
Repentance from dead works



### REBUILDING ANALOGY

Everything of the old house is demolished and flattened and debris removed

Old things even unseen underground are dug up and removed eg pipes, drainage, sewer,.....etc

Prior to demolition, baiting is done to destroy all the pests – rats, cockroaches, white ants,.....etc

A person repenting has all dead works, both seen and unseen, torn down and removed. The past failures are forgiven and forgotten by God

Heb 8:10-13 For this is the covenant that I will make .....I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. ...A new covenant...old is ready to vanish away

## Step 2

# The Concrete Slab is laid according to prescribed design

Faith towards God



### REBUILDING ANALOGY

The prescribed concrete slab forms the foundation of the house

Faith towards God is the foundational step for every Christian

A properly laid and strong foundation is crucial and mandatory for things to go well

If the foundation is not strong or level, the building will be suspect!

Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

## Step 3a

Pillars and Walls =

Doctrine of Baptisms (Water Baptism)







### REBUILDING ANALOGY

The pillars and walls support and makes up the form of the house

The house takes form and shape and begins to look functional

Water Baptism is the sign of obedience to Jesus Christ and a seal of the New Covenant of Grace and official recognition (new name)

Water baptism signifies the believer chooses to abide by Christian tenets and practices

These actions start to shape the Christian life and the Christian becomes increasingly functional

Act 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, **Repent**, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

## Step 3b

Fitout: Wiring, Plumbing, Lights, Power, Gas and Water supply

Doctrine of Baptisms (Baptism of Holy Spirit)



#### REBUILDING ANALOGY

The wiring, plumbing, lights, gas, power and water supply makes the house fully functional

Without fitout, the house is not liveable. It cannot properly function as a habitation

Baptism of the Holy Spirit empowers the Christian to live the life that God intends. The Holy Spirit 'fitout' the Christian for service

Act 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me ......

Gal 5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.









Step 4 Roof Covering

Laying on of Hands

#### REBUILDING ANALOGY

The roof completes the whole structure

It provides covering from the elements eg wind, rain, hot sun and cold

Laying on of hands by the presbytery (pastors and elders) represents acceptance as members and under-covering of the local assembly leadership where there is provision and protection

Impartation of gifts and touch of the Holy Spirit

Ordination for service in the local church

1Co 12:18 ... God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.

Act 8:17 ...laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

Mar 16:18 ...; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Step 5, 6, 7 (Coming your way Soon!)

Resurrection from the dead Eternal Judgement Perfection



### **Lessons Learned:**

- 1. There is a cost to be met at every stage.
- 2. No matter which stage you are, you need to count the cost and be prepared for it.
- 3. There are many details that need attention. Monitor, and monitor! Holy Spirit is our Helper
- 4. The journey has many challenges, highs and lows and cost but the reward will be fulfilling

Luk 14:27-28 And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?

Php\_3:8 ... I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,