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SOME SETBACKS ARE SPRINGBOARD!



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GREETING FRIENDS,

God has a place at the top for everyone but not without challenges that demand our responsibility. These challenges are a portrait of setbacks leading to frustration, hardship, fear, stress, etc.

Setbacks are real! As living beings, we are confronted by nature with labor to live, struggle to survive, the battle to bear, and fear of failures. Some setbacks are caused by environmental factors, societal influence, peer groups, inadequate information, ignorance, and mind-set.

Sometimes, most setbacks come from setups, elements from a conspiracy, envy, jealousy, and hatred. Although they are typical of life, they become abnormal when you allow such normality to take advantage.

People, who you called great today, are nobody with any identity yesterday. It is time you stand up over any setbacks by working out every negative symbol to a signpost of envy.

When you don't see what you have, don't expect anyone to see it for you. Setbacks don't allow most people to see what they have. Some setbacks damage the present, render the future unsecured, and make many lose focus of the future! Insensitivity is one of the quickest killers of destiny, and if you are not sensitive to the setback, it kills faster. Be keen not to allow knocks to damage your future.

People who wait for things to happen stay within the conferment of setback, waiting for help. There are profitable demands to triumphant living, be ready to make the demand because among them is the key to winning setbacks on your way.

Setbacks come most of the time like insurmountable mountains. So, even if setbacks characterize our journey, our lives are meant to stand out. I have realized that when you are unchanged by your decision to succeed, success will come and override setbacks.

A few years ago, an invitation to speak at a summit in Lagos Island came to my table. And because I am not conversant with the location and Lagos in general, I have to leave home on time. However, despite taking off earlier from Ota with my admin officer, we met heavy traffics, and he said I hate Lagos with passion. He wishes we could return home and call the organizer that the traffic is much and stressful, we can't meet up. Friend, sincerely the traffic was terrible! Everywhere was blocked, and nowhere to turn to in that traffic. My admin officer complaint got me worried because he just wanted to hear me say, turn this car, and not forthcoming. He didn't know how I hated the Lagos route than him. Immediately, I cautioned him to stop complaining; suddenly, a scripture came to my mind from 1 Corinthians 10:13,

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

I learned five great lessons on setbacks on the spot.

1. Setbacks are like temptations.

Often than now, setbacks come as a temptation that prompts easy access to given up. Most times, setbacks make us settle for the unseen. I knew the traffics was terrifying, but I looked at the number of persons waiting for me to be blessed. It seems as if I should go back home and enjoy my comfort zone. But my conscious approach to life won't let me. I knew we are going to that summit to add value, but valleys wanted to stop us. Several thoughts were running through my mind; talk less of my admin officer. I knew what was happening was a temptation to give up on the invitation.

Friend, there are crossroads you reach, and it seems you should give up, don't, keep going forward because there are great crystals if you manage to cross over. I have been by privilege a preacher of a better tomorrow no matter the good today. No matter the setbacks, we will soon smile. Job had better early years until setbacks set in. But, there is something unique about God's glorious end regardless of setback. He often makes the end better than the beginning.

So the LORD blessed Job in the second half of his life even more than in the beginning...

Job 12:14

Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.

Ecclesiastes 7:8

My prayer for you today is that no matter the setback you are facing today, your tomorrow will be greater. You will subsequently not need to be disturbed about the setbacks. The joy that tomorrow is secure will occupy your heart henceforth. I am so sure a new glory is coming your way. Amid any setbacks, you will find yourself shinning; you will be scaling height in Jesus' name.

2. Setbacks are common

Any setback you've ever encounter is common to man, don't be afraid; you will soon get over it. Although getting past setbacks, most time requires patience, healing of the mind, and calm in the soul to get away out. I was sensitive enough not to allow my admin officer to talk me into taking defeat, knowing truly well that setbacks are expected. My wish is to be in the meeting; no matter how I get there, I have to get there. I stood my ground and told the admin office that I will still get to the arena even if it takes us longer than expected. Friend, no matter how terrible life traffic might look on your paths, keeps your focus. Friend, only

focus mind sees what the future holds and arrives at the future they see. Life issues are common; they only come in different patterns and parts. Don't let people talk you into making the decision you don't want to take. Some will say they have not seen people fail woefully like this; the question in mind is, has people failed before? If yes, then you will get past it because there is no case beyond repair, restoration, and rebuild in God's hands.

3. Setbacks provoke God's faithfulness.

Many never appreciate the hands of God until they need the help of God! The simplest way to step out of setbacks is to rest assured of God's faithfulness regardless of our needs and situation. When I became a professor, I asked God to show me why He allowed me to start my career as a cleaner. He replied, son, no matter how you start, I want you to know that I am beautiful in every situation. Please know that God has no reason to change because of your case. He only changes man's position for His glorification. God has every challenge confronting you under His control if you care to believe. In that traffic, I relied on God's faithfulness to lead me through what to do and how to go about getting to the venue, knowing fully well that he will not suffer me to be tempted above what I can bear. I have, by privilege, knows that God's faithfulness covers man from fallen and failure. It provokes mercy, favour, and grant grace to endure in need. I bear in that traffic jams believing for the next step to take.

4. Setbacks allow a man to bear

Have you ever imagined that there are things you bear and think through how you handle them? Many of us waited for promotion in a place of work for years, yet you bear it by waiting for it comes to pass. Most of us endure strange persecution from fellow friends, yet you bear it all. Setbacks come to man inform of delays, yet we work past it with determination. No matter the setback level, God says, I have put a tolerance margin for you that you can bear. Many have setbacks in marriage, career, getting jobs, business, and academics, but they came out more robust in its midst. I knew I am coming out of that traffic stronger that very day. I was sure God was trying to pass a message for me to pick the signals. Many of us hold our responsibility to bear the now for the better future. Terrible things surround setbacks; among them is the cobweb of confusion, anxiety, and complaints which you must not give in for. God has a destination so enviable and colorful for you; bear the now because the cobweb

will soon go. Finally, we got past the traffic and obtained our freedom.

5. Setbacks come with an escape route.

One good thing about life setbacks is that it comes with an opposite side called escape route. Many see the setbacks and dwell there; only a few see escape route in setbacks' and go forward. Setbacks do not kill because they are designed not to kill us but to hurt, hunt, harden, toughen and equip, depending on how you see it. My prayer for you today is that you will see the escape route in every setback that comes your way. Friends, there are things you can't change, but you can chart your path out of it. Telling setbacks not to come is like telling God not to bless you.

The testimony of God's act upon the Israelite in Egypt will not be complete without mentioning the miraculous redsea escape route.

For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon Joshua 2:10

Friend, "with the temptation also make a way to escape." God in any setback makes a way of escape around you. Israelites escaped from the hand of Pharaoh and the Egyptian army because God himself created that path of escape. The red sea is no go area for any man; only divinity could generate that miraculous path. Paul and Silas were in prison, and after doing what they could, "praying and singing," God open the escape route. The jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open. He drew his sword and was about to kill himself. supposing that the prisoners had escaped.

But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas

Act 16:28-29

The beauty of every setback is that you gain command, enjoy decoration, and get settled.

Friend, no one can hold your destiny down; God has an escape path for you. The way-out of every business challenge after you have done all you could do is in God. Every marriage crisis, career breakdown, financial stress, and struggling growth lies in the escape route of God. Acquaintance with God brings good to man.

Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee.

Job22:21

The world sees us as gold because God is good. In God, the setback is often clamped down for our glory to arise. We got the venue with many people waiting; to date, the amasing impact is overwhelming in Ignite's world today.

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Prof. Isaac O. Fayomi is a renowned international motivational speaker, author, lecturer, and teacher. He is a life coach and leadership mentor. He is a passionate, purpose-driven, self-motivated and result-oriented natural leader.

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His uniqueness covers total life issues with reference to scriptural concepts and life experiences to address the real challenges of life. He is a well-travelled inspirational/motivational speaker, a life worshipper and has shared podiums with many great leaders on issues of exploits in life and marriage. Isaac with dogged commitment to excellence has won several honors and awards both locally and internationally. He is married to Gloria, and they are blessed with two children, Isaac Jnr and Triumph.