

Your Self-Discovery Guide

A Journey Into Yourself

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Introduction

In **Your Self-Discovery Guide**, you will discover who you are. It is in this book where you will learn to love and value yourself, as you should. You will be helped to learn what materials you are composed of. You will be guided to discover your talents, gifts and abilities. This book is for believers as well as for those who do not believe in God. The idea is that, we are all human.

Religion, politics, race and other things do not *really* define who we are. What defines us is what we believe or *accept* is true about us. What we believe is true becomes what we do, and this is what this book is going to help you with. Understanding who you are is the key for your journey's success. This will help you know yourself more than you think you do. It will make you discover your roles in different levels.

It will help you detect and pursue your career roles, family roles and societal roles. You may not agree with my terminologies, and you do not need to agree with every concept either. The book will help you value yourself and other people around you. It will help you think and act, as you should. This book is not only about informing you of the facts about you.

It goes deeper inside! It helps you by *informing* you about who you are. It also helps you know and *accept* that this information is true by heart. We call this believing or accepting the truth. After accepting the truth, you will be guided to *practice* your knowledge of yourself in different ways. Some people do not like the word "*Belief*", because it is connected to religion. I would love to try to use the word "*Accept*", instead of *belief* in most cases in this book. The words are the same anyway, depending on the meaning we give them.

Therefore, the book will inform your mind, and it will help you to know and accept the information (your choice), and then it will help you put into practice what you have been taught. You were created for a purpose, and you need to find this out! You don't believe in a Creator? That is fine. I hope you accept you exist. If you do exist, then the book is also for you. It will help you know yourself, and accept yourself, just the way you are.

You are indeed precious! You may be disabled physically naturally, or by what human beings did to you. Yet, you are important! You are not rubbish! You are who you are. In order to function well, you need to know yourself, and this is the promise of this book. The book is not only for you, the reader, it is for me too, the author. My own guide helps me continue to discover more about me.

It helps me look at myself, and see the real me. I need to know who I am, so that I can live my life on earth, doing what I supposed to do, before I rest in the deep dust! We are but aliens on earth, whether we believe in God or not! Time will come for you and me to leave the earth and go somewhere else. So, discover yourself today. Learn who you are, and do what you are able to do before you leave!



Chapter 1: Discovering the Real You

The Physical You

There is nothing important on earth than knowing the real you. As I said in my other book titled, **The Author's Experience**, knowing who you are can be difficult sometimes. There are many factors to make us think and act the way we do. These factors include our nature, our environment and our knowledge. Our nature is what we are by birth.

We can be what we are by inheriting our characters from our parents. This is a genetic kind of being who we are, physically, mentally and so on. We may look like one of our parents. We may even look like both of our parents. This falls under the physical appearance. We may think and act like our parents or at least like one of our relatives, just because of the genetic relations between them and us.

The environment is another huge factor that can make us who we are. The way we look physically has something or many things to do with the environment where we live and work. This means our appearance and behavior can be affected by the environment as well. The more we are exposed to the Sunshine for example, can make our skin look darker or reddish, if our skin is light. Our environment is made up of all things you can ever think of. It is made of weather, cold, warm, or hot. It is made of climate, where things differ from place to another. All these situations can affect

how we look even physically. They can also affect how we think and do things! How your people think and work, is how you think and work too! This is a fact. It is happening daily. We wear cloth the way our people do. We eat, walk, talk and do everything else the way people do things in our place. If everyone walks naked, we would like to do the same! No one does things in an *odd* way in a society. This is what I mean by saying the environment makes us think and work the way we do. My English is what our people speak!

That is why there are British, American English accents, and even writings! However, is this the real you? Is how you look outside all you are? No. it is just part of you. You are not all physically made. You have software, just like the device you are now using! This is amazing, isn't it? Do not be deceived you are just a mixture of chemicals. This is true. You are a mixture of chemicals, but only on the physical you. This is half of you. Is this Religion? I personally do not think it is.

Your appearance can be what it is, because of the factors mentioned above. We inherit our shape, skin color, teeth shape, height, size and everything else from either our parents, or the environment. You may know only that people look the way they look because of their parents or biological relatives.

You may be discovering the reality that even the environment has an input, regarding the way you and me appear from the outside. The Africans look the way you see them, not only because of their parents, but also because of their environment.

The same reality applies to Americans, Australians, European, Asian, Middle Eastern, and so on. For example, most people living in the hot areas on earth have developed short and wider nostrils, compared to those living in the very cold places! This is a scientific fact. There is a very good reason for this! Because of

heat, we need enough air to enter our nostrils. This is for us who live in hot places. Because of coldness in Europe, the US or other parts of the world, people there have developed long nostrils with smaller openings. This is because the time the air travels before it reaches their inner nose, it can be warmer than it was! With thin entrance and narrow passage through the nostrils, the amount of air getting into the nose can be smaller, compared to ours here in Africa!

Can you now see how the environment can make our physical bodies appear the way they are? This is all the design of the Intelligent Designer. We may call him names. Yet, we cannot even fully describe him. Some people prefer to use feminine words to describe God. There is nothing wrong with that. Whether we believe in him or not, it does not make him to disappear.

Again, this has nothing to do with religion as many of us may think. It is simply a fact about who we are. I have my personal understanding of what religion is. I hate religion. I do not even want to be religious. If I sound like a religious person, please forgive me. This is just the way I have been brought up.

The way I express myself will just tell you more about me. It helps you get in touch with me. I am a devout Christian, but not religious. At the end of this book, you will find out more about what changed my life and worldview.

In fact, there is a big difference between Christianity as a religion – man’s own way to God, and *Christian Faith* – God’s way to man! You don’t even want to see the name “*God*”? No problem. This is what I am. I believe there is a God who made the universe as fine-tuned as it is. This is I. I have many real life stories to testify this belief is based on solid evidence and truth. You do not need to take that path, unless you understand it. You simply need

to read and understand this book. You only need to accept this book's concepts about the real you. You will only need to apply some of these teachings into your own life. You will only need to add them to your menu. The point of this Step 1 is letting us know that we are made of both material bodies and the immaterial bodies – *software* and *hardware*.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

- Do you look like one of your parents?
- Do you look like both?
- Do you look like one of your biological relatives?
- Do you resemble one of your siblings?
- Have you even seen someone that almost looks like you physically?
- Do you love yourself? Why or why not?

Revision – The truth is that, you are unique! There is none like you on earth. You may look like me somehow, but you are not me. My children are said to resemble me a lot, but they are different people. The same thing is also true with you. Believe and *accept* yourself, just as you are.

You may be a disabled person, yet you are who you are. Forget the negative things about you. People in your area may discourage you a lot, based on your physical appearance. Know the truth about who you are, and turn the deaf ears to those who think you are nothing. These people can be your own parents. They can be your siblings, or friends.

The fact is, you know who you are then they may think! You cannot change who you are physically, can you? You cannot change your past, but you can change the future if you only want to. You can do this by discovering the real you. You can achieve this goal by learning the facts about you. Your past knowledge

about yourself, and the world around you, produced your present life. Your present life will likely produce your future life. That is why this guide is your friend. Your physical body is what you are partially. Love it. Appreciate it. Find ways to love it. See your body as what it is, and think accordingly!

Some people want to be tall. Some want to be short. Others still want to be slim or huge. It does not matter how you look from the outside. I mean, what matters is accepting the real you, just the way you are! You may already know this fact before reading this book. Yet, this book wants to make this a reality in your personal life.

THE SPIRITUAL YOU

As mentioned above, you are not just a physical body! You are also a spiritual person. How do we know this? The answer is just simple. How do you know your phone has software? How do you know your computer has an intangible part? You can see them, right? Well, we cannot see our spirit, but we can know we have a spirit. If you have problems with the words such as “*Spirit*”, “*Spiritual*”, or “*God*”, do not worry.

These are terms with different meanings to different people. They may commonly mean something connected to religion. However, in this book, they have nothing to do with religion in the real sense. These terms are used here to express the concepts about who we are. These are facts based on our content. Anyone can interpret the terms in many other different ways.

Do not be scared or *pushed* out of the journey by these terms. There are many ways for us to know we are not just physical creatures. One of these ways is history itself. The history of faith and belief in a God, made it clear that we are not just physical humans. We are made of both material and immaterial things. We sometimes call these, spirits or souls.

Apart from history, our minds can tell us we are made of immaterial bodies. You do not really need to believe you are not just a physical body. If we believe it or not, it does not matter! We are spiritual beings. This is the reason why we always need a spiritual relationship. We may not realize this truth most of the time. We may not realize we have been in a spiritual relationship. This statement may describe my view. It may tell you more about my worldview and lifestyle.

It can also be based on the international facts, about each human society that ever existed. We are spiritual beings and that is why we dream when we are sleeping! What? We dream because of the things we have been thinking about when we were awake! If you think this way, you are not near to the truth. I have dreamt of places I never been before! Could my own brain create such places and activities that will happen and take place years later?

I do not accept it is true for you and me to dream of something we never thought of, and it becomes a reality later on in our lives. If this is so, as it was to me, then it is not from our imaginations. It is not our imaginations simply because we never thought of such a thing when we were awake. Good enough, there are witnesses of what happened.

It was in 1998 when I dreamt of the first plane that dropped bombs on people! No one was killed except a bull. The dream was as precise and detailed as it happened in the real world, just in the following morning. The events in the dream were all real in the real-life. I shared the dream with family members, and in some few hours later, it became real. It just happened as it was in the dream! I never thought of writing down these dreams in details until now. These are the only dreams my mind can remember. They all took place as precise as they were! The first dream was of that plane bombing. It was in *Kiech Kuon*, in 1998.

The second was the dream of the snakebite on my left toe. This was in August 2000. The type of the snake, the place it bit me from, and the event, all were as precise as they were! The third dream was of the rainfall. This was in July 2001.

The measurement of the rainfall was precise just as in the dream. The fourth dream was that of places such as *Goli*, *Gel Dhiak*, *Lankien* and others. I never have been in those places when I dreamt of them, from 2000 to 2009. The events that took me there were also precise and clear, even in the dream itself! These are all claims since someone may need to prove them right or wrong.

You do not need to trust me either. You do not need to *believe* them to make them real. The fact is, I am here testifying of what happened. I am the eyewitness of all these. I do not need to believe they happened, simply because these are not make-up stories. They are things that make me know I am not just a physical human. I have a spirit that connects and communicates with the Spirit of the Creator! I do not need to believe this, I know it.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

- Did you know you are more than a physical body?
- What makes you know you are a spiritual person?
- What makes you think you are not a spiritual person?
- Can science prove we are not spiritual beings?
- If you did not know you were a spiritual being, how did you feel when you discovered this fact?
- Would you like to share your new experience with others?
- Why do you think you are a spirit being?
- Why do you think you are not a spirit being?
- What makes you unique?
- Why are you alive today?

- Where did you come from?
- Where are you going?
- Who are you really?
- What inspires you so much?

Revision – You do not need to believe you are a spirit being. You are! Just as you do not need to believe you can eat food, you do not need to believe you are a spiritual body. The history itself testifies we are spirit beings. Things that are beyond our imagination, such as dreams suggest we are more than physical humans are. The scientific study of human brain suggests the intelligent design.

This design was through some natural processes of course! The modern quantum theories and studies reveal the facts that there is indeed a world of timeless dimension! A world that time and space seems not to exist! This is the spiritual realm. For more information on this and other facts about us and the universe, check out the **Facts and Faith Publications**.

THE REAL YOU

We have said you are a physical as well as a spiritual body, right? What does this mean? Is that all you need to know about yourself? I think this is just the beginning of the journey. As this step is the beginning of this book, knowing the facts about yourself is the beginning too. The real you is a combination of all the physical and the spiritual facts about you. In the study of human beings, theologians agree and disagree on what a human being is composed of.

Some say we are made of the immaterial (soul-spirit), plus the material (physical body). The view that we are made of two parts is called *dichotomy*. The view that we are made of the two distinct immaterial parts that is soul, spirit and a physical body is

called *trichotomy*. Some even say we are made of one part – *monochotomy*. Since you cannot say you have seen a human being minus any of the parts, that is spirit, soul and body, a human being is just a unit of all these. This argument is meant for academic rooms only.

Whatever view you support, we are made of both physical and spiritual parts. It does not matter how we call them. God has his own terms for them. God used our human terms to speak to us, not because these are the correct terms for the natural world and ourselves! You are who you are to the Creator. You are here on earth for a reason. Would you like to know this reason? It will take you the rest of your life to discover this in its fullness.

II

Chapter 2: Discovering Your Roles

Career Roles

Discovering your career is the first thing in knowing what you can do, and you can do it well. Your career is your real identity! Since you are both a physical and a spiritual person, you can also do physical and spiritual things. However, you must discover what these things are. You have roles to play, and you will not know this until you think about knowing them. By career, I do not mean your job!

These are two different things. Jobs are things we do because of external forces. We can be forced to work by money, our friends, or situations and even by your own spouse or relatives! However, your career is what you feel like to do, and you can do it with leisure and pleasure! You see the difference? I am a writer, translator, preacher, teacher, and farmer.

I do these things with leisure and joy! I do not just do them anyway, because I must also have a good reason to do them. I wrote this book for a reason – helping me and you know who we are, as God knows us! I know, I can write for money. I can write because someone told me to write, and not because it is my career. I can also translate books from English into my language, just for money, or for fame, or for whatever a man can desire to have. Yet, these are not my reasons to do all these things! I do

them because I love doing them. I write because there is a better reason as stated many times in my books. I write to share, not to sell. I have sold less than a 100 books for the last three years, 2012 – 2015. I know, I can preach for fame, for pride, and for whatever a man may delight in. I can hunt because of hunger. I can go fishing because of the same. I can become a farmer, because I want to eat and sell the products of the land.

In addition, these are all good reasons to do all these activities. However, for my case, I do them because I feel the joy of doing them. I just love doing these things, even though I do not do them in every hour, day, week, month, or year. I do write when I feel like to write. I do not write everyday or every week.

Sometimes I do not write for a long time. I can teach for money. I can teach for any other thing a man may want to do and achieve. However, I teach because I want to share what I know. I teach and preach because I want you to know what I know. I teach to share what I know with the world, in order to help the world in changing it.

For sure, our world is ever changing, whether we do something about it, or not. In fact, we are moving towards the end! That end can be physical as well as spiritual. Our universe is not standing in one place. We are not in the same place we were two hours ago. We have moved a little bit, eastwards! This is a fact. We do not need to *believe* it in order for it to be real, do we?

Career can be developed when discovered. However, we have to discover our career before we develop it! Discovering the real you, will help you know what you can do – career. I can do all things in Christ Jesus my Lord! However, what does this statement even mean? This is not an emotional statement. It is not an empty hope, it is real when I believe and know it is true. I mean, when I *accept* it! I can write, edit, publish and market my

own books! I believe it, I know it, and I am doing it. It works! Because I am a physical being, I can do physical things that matters to me. Because I am a spiritual person, I can do spiritual things as well. What are some of those spiritual things? Check them out at the end of this book – Step 5.

My software helps me discover and use my hardware capacity and abilities. Without my software, I cannot function even physically. This is the source of my knowledge. I will spend time on it at the end of the book. This is not to convince you to do what I do, but to help you find what you can do, based on the real you. What inspired you may not be the same with what inspired me!

QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

- Do you think and accept you can do certain things better than others?
- Have you discovered your career yet?
- What are your career roles?
- What is the main difference between career and job?
- What makes you different from others in career?
- Why do you want to discover your abilities, talents and gifts?
- Would you help others discover their careers?
- Would you like to discover your career now?
- Would you like to discover your weaknesses and threats?

Revision – You do not need to believe in your career! You can know it. It is part of who you are. You have the power in you, based on your nature. You are unique! No one is exactly like you on earth. All you need is to sit down and think. Find out who you are. Find out about your likes and dislikes, if you never done this before. This will help you know who you are. Even the identical twins are not exactly the same! If they are the same from the outside, they are not the same inside. If they are the same

physically, they are not the same spiritually. You have a duty. You have a role to play as an individual person. You can do what others cannot do! You can do the same things others do, but in your own unique and beautiful way. Just remember, you have a role to play. You have a talent to put into practice. You have some gifts that you need to make use of, as you live before you depart for home.

This does not matter whether you believe in heaven or hell. It does not matter if you do not even believe in anything. What matters is all about knowing you can do something unique. Finding that unique thing is what I call, career discovery! You will not discover your career until you try doing things you feel you can do well. This means you can only learn through practice.

One thing I have also learned in this journey is that, you may not know what you can do well, until you are exposed to it! I could never image a computer before seeing one in my lifetime. This means finding your career also needs exposure to places, events and different new adventures in life.

Hardships and all challenges of life are there to teach us. Challenges are our teaching tools. They teach us about who we are. We learn through *experience* more than we do in classrooms. This is the reason why scientific theories need empirical evidences of the facts being discovered.

FAMILY ROLES

Family roles are not career roles. When we talk of your roles in the family, I mean things you can do in the family level. Remember, a family is a smaller unit of a society! In a family, you can be a husband, wife, child, or a biological relative. There are different roles for each person in a family. There are roles for a husband, wife and a child. There are things children expect from their father, mother, uncle or other family members. There are

expectations between siblings, and this is what I mean by the family roles. Discovering these roles will help you think and live the way you should.

Family roles can be governed, or even stated by your culture and belief. Each one of us has a culture. By culture, I mean, what we think and do, based on how our people think and do things around us. It is just the way of life, as we see life. It includes thinking and acting the way we do. My culture has its own expectations of a family member. As a husband, my wife expects me to think and work or function in a certain way. I do the same for my wife, based on what our people and our environment have taught us.

There are different expectations in Africa, compared to Europe, America, Australia, and other areas just to name a few of them. Even in Africa, communities have different values. These values define our expectations for each other in a family level, as well as in a society level. Our cultures are just the way we live. They can be adjusted, or changed. Our cultures have been changing from time to time! They are changing too, whether we have realized this fact or not.

Our cultures can be good or bad. They can be moral or immoral. They can be risky or safe, depending on what they are. Since most of our cultural beliefs and behavior are made out of life experiences and the environment itself, they may not work in all times and places! According to my culture, my wife is responsible for cooking, cleaning the house and the compound, bathing babies and children, arranging our bed and the beds for our children, welcoming guests to our home and many other responsibilities.

These are good things for a wife to do. However, we should also know that, good works are not only for women. No one ever said

that any way. On the other hand, a husband is expected to look for food anywhere he can be able to find it! This is because he is believed to be the one to do this job – *breadwinner!* A husband is to build the houses at home. He is expected to look for the poles for building the house. He is the farmer, hunter, angler, and the one who can do all the work to make sure there is food in the house for the wife to cook. He is expected to buy clothing for his wife, children and other family members.

All these expectations may vary from community to the other, even here in South Sudan. These are all good roles for one to have as a husband. A man has to build the houses for his animals, such as cows, donkeys, mules, goats, sheep, chicken, and ducks and so on. He has to make robes for keeping the cows, goats and other animals that need to be tie down. He has to protect his family from danger, like wild animals, or other dangers that are present.

Then, a mother is expected to do the same things mentioned above, by her children. She is the best cook in the house! Father never cooks! This is my worldview. This is how I was taught by my culture and the environment, to belief and live by. Denying this fact means, I do not tell the truth. Christianity does not automatically delete these views and beliefs. These beliefs are not all bad or evil in any way. They are good. What we need to do is to adjust them, or modify them if needed. We can make them our goals to serve others instead of being served.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

- Did you know you have a role to play in your family?
- Did you know your culture is just the way of life?
- Did you know your culture has been changing?
- What are your family roles according to your people?
- What do you think needs change in your expectations?

- Why do you think of a change in your expectations?
- What are your expectations about your spouse if married?
- What are your parental expectations if you are a child?
- What are your roles as a husband?
- What are your roles as a wife?
- What are your roles as a parent?
- What are your roles as a child?
- Do you like playing your roles in the family?

Revision – A family is our home. It is where we were born. It is where we have been growing up. It is made of parents and children. The children can either be born to a family, or adapted into it. A family in Africa is made of more than a wife and the children. We all expect our partners to do certain things to us as individual persons, or to the whole family. This can be cultural, or something we can admire from somewhere else. Our cultural worldview is what we get from our parents and the environment where we were raised.

The Bible has a lot to expect from each family member. God expects us to love him and then love each other in our families. It is very important to know our roles in the family. These roles can be personal, based on personal lifestyle, or they can be a result of our beliefs or culture. There is a big difference between what an individual person expects, from their own view, and what they expect based on the cultural view. We have a choice to make!

We can choose to listen to our own views, or our cultural views. We can choose to obey what the Bible says about our roles, and do what we can do in the family, or follow our own minds. We should know that each family member is unique! We all have different expectations of each other. Knowing what we expect from each other, will help us do what we are supposed to do in the family.

If Jesus is the center for our family, we will learn to know him and relate to him first. This will be the uniting factor in our family. It will help us know that each one of us is different, because God made them that way for his own reasons. Finding out what your spouse likes, and dislikes is very important. This has never been an important thing in my life because of the environment, and the way of life, I have been exposed to. However, I have just discovered that my wife is not me! I am not my wife. I mean, we are just different people, in every possible way.

We need to know our children, if we have any. We need to know them as God knows them. We need to understand that they are different people, even if they resemble us in whatever way. We need to know that they have likes and dislikes. This is to better know how to relate with each other in the family.

It will also help us as parents to assign jobs and functions to our kids, if we know who they are. We need to know their talents, gifts and careers. Each family member is commanded to do certain things in the family. A husband is commanded to love his wife as he loves himself! A wife is commanded to respect and honor her husband! These are commands, not options. The result is perfect! If we love our wives, they will give us what we want and need! It is just automatic. Love your wife as you should love her. If you do this, you will see the positive results. She will respect and honor you.

Children are commanded to obey and listen to their parents! No option. It did not say; obey your parents when you need to. It simply said obey them! It does not matter who your parents are, just obey whatever they tell you. You may not understand why, but if you obey them, you will be rewarded for that!

They are your parents. Obey them just because of who they are to you. Workers or servants are commanded to respect and obey their leaders. This is part of the social role. Leaders are also asked to treat their workers as co-workers! This is to explain who these people are. We on earth, we are doing the work of *stewardship*! God is the owner of all things, including us. Our social status does not matter to God. We are his workmanship! He values all of us in the family. He loves all of us. He cares for all of us. We just need to discover our family roles and live by them.

SOCIAL ROLES

Social roles are not family roles, even though they may share some other things. As we are expected to be, and function in a certain way in the family level, we are also expected to be, and work in a certain way in a society! Our relationship with other people can be in the individual level or family level.

We do have social roles that are different from our family and career roles. However, our career roles can reach to the family, as well as to the public. Since it is my role to write books, this is my career role. Yet, this can serve my family and my society in different ways.

Here, I am simply looking at things we do in the public. What the society expects of us is just as important as what our wives, husbands, children, relatives and other people expect from us. Based on the culture and belief in your society, the roles expected from you by your people can vary and differ a lot, from what people expect from me.

As mentioned earlier, my community expects me to be a man. Being a man, is what my culture defines it to be. A man must do this and that. However, in this book, I am simply talking about what people may think about you. I am talking about things you can really be able to do. You cannot be able to do everything

people expect from you, can you? How I relate to other people in my society, is affected by what I think about the people. My culture, environment, and my inherited genes affect what I think about the people! My worldview is the worldview of my people, unless something else happens. My society expects me to be, and behave in a certain way. My people expect me to marry to more than one wife! Not only my people, or my community, or my relatives, even my wife expects me to get married at least to another woman!

My community expects me to be a brave man. They want me to work hard and provide food and security to my family. They expect me to be someone who loves other people, and welcomes them to my home with open arms! They expect me to tell the truth all the time! They want me to be a reliable source of information. They expect me to reconcile people who are not at peace with each other.

Why all these expectation? People expect me to be and act like this because of my social status – man of God. Some or most of these expectations may vary from place to another, even in South Sudan. What I am sharing here with you is what my community can do and expect me to do. Yours may vary greatly, depending on where you live on earth. However, as I said, some of these things are not what I expect from myself! I want to be a good man, a gentle and caring husband, a loving father to children, and a peacemaker in my community. These are all good desires.

However, it takes knowing who I am, and what I am here for, to do what I supposed to do in my life. This is the reason this book was written. I did not write this book just for you as a reader, I wrote this book for myself too. It reminds me of who I am. I have discovered who I am to God.

I have discovered who I am to my wife. It reminds me of who I am to my family, relatives, clan, sub-tribe, tribe, community and to my society and entire nation. It reminds me of my roles in all these areas of life. It reminds me of what to do and leave behind me when I go home. It has nothing to do with religion. It is a fact that I will disappear from the planet earth one day. However, what can I do now when I am living? What can I do to family, society and myself? My writings are a ministry and a service to my family, relatives, community and the whole nation of South Sudan.

It is my role to write. It is my career to publish and share my writings with the whole world, not only South Sudan! You can see how your personal talents and gifts can be used in a family level as well as society level. Your roles can extend from personal to family level. They can still extend from family to clan or whatever nearest social level or group.

In addition, they may extend to the nation. They can also extend to the whole world! Yet, we must know our roles in all these levels. That is why self-discovery is a key to all our performances. We cannot perform well in whatever level of responsibility, unless we know who we are, as God knows us. This is why knowing ourselves is the first thing in our self-discovery journey.

It is my faith that it is necessary for us to know ourselves well. The best way to do this is learning these facts from the Creator. Apart from expectations from my society about what I can do, I can do things I know I can do better. Some of these things I have been doing already. Some of them are things that I will do in the future.

For sure, I do not even know some of my talents and gifts yet! This is why this book is good for you and me. It is good because it reminds me to look into who I am, and do what I can do. It

helps me know what my wife wants me to do. This can be what I can do to her, or for her. It can be what I can do to myself, our children or other people. These ideas are mixed with expectations, gifts and talents. My wife may expect me to do things she knows I will be able to do well – my career. What I expect from myself is that, I will continue to discover who I am, both physically and spiritually. This book is part of the discovery. For now, I have discovered what I can do well. This is what I can do for wife, children, relatives, community, society, the whole world and myself. I can write, edit, publish and market books. I can use a computer for reading, communication, writing and typing, research, design of book covers, book interior design, book publishing and many other great things.

I can use the computer to translate Christian Books, software User Interface Languages and even edit videos with it! I can preach the Gospel, because I know it is the best tool to make me know who I am, and what I can do. The Gospel defines who I am, and the purpose why I live here on earth. Because the Gospel makes people know who they are – self-discovery, it is the best gift I can ever give to any human being on earth! Many of us are lost, and are still lost in the world of confusion. We need to find ourselves, so that we know where we are heading.

Therefore, my role in the society is sharing the Good News with other people, also known as the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I can do this through writing like this. I can do this through preaching in a church or chapel. I can do this in teaching people in a classroom. I can do this in my own life. Living the Gospel is the most difficult and best way to share Jesus with others. It becomes easier to do when we grow in the knowledge of who Jesus is, and who we are to him. I will tell you more about Jesus, and how important it is to know him personally, at the end of this book.

For now, these are my roles. I believe, *accept* and know that these are the things I must do here on earth. I must love and care for my only wife. I must teach my children how to live responsibly at home, because by doing, they will be blessed for it. They must respect us, the parents, and other people at home. It is my children's duty to respect their parents. It is their role to love us and listen to whatever we tell them. Life is meaningful! It becomes what it is when we know our roles and ourselves. Our roles vary from community to another. There are expectations from others, and there are real things we can be able to do.

I may be expected to marry a second or third wife, but this may not be what I want to do. The situation may force me to take this deadly advice, but it will never be real, because it is not what I expect from myself. I will be committed to serving others in my family, community and society. I can do this service in different ways. It all depends on my talents, gifts, and abilities.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

- Did you know you have social roles to play?
- Did you know your career and family roles can be extended to social roles?
- What does your community expects from you as an individual person?
- What are some of the things you can do for your society?
- What are some of the things you are already doing for your nation?
- Did you know you can only play a role when you are alive?
- What do you want to achieve before you depart for home?
- What things does your community want you to do and you don't want to?

- Why do you want, or not want to do what your people expect you to do?
- What do you expect others to do to you or for you in a society level?
- Why would you want them to do those things to you or for you?

Revision – Our social roles are important. They can be what people expect from us. We may or may not be able to do all things our society expects from us for whatever reasons. Yet, it is also your role to identify your social roles in your society. It is my role to identify my social roles in my society.

There are both physical and spiritual roles in our societies, just as there are in our homes and families. Expectations are based on beliefs or real gifts and talents you may have. Each human society has its own expectations. These expectations may or may not work with each one of us. We also have our own expectations as individual persons.

In Africa, you are expected to be and behave just as your parents and relatives are! This is good, but it may have problems sometimes. We all need to adventure and discover new ways of doing things! I love doing things that are not even known to my people yet. These include writing and publishing my own books. My father never thought of writing and publishing a book.

Be wise and take care. Do not just do anything in your society, simply because other people want you to. Find out your real desires and pursue them. These can be good for you personally, your family, and your society. Use your own judgment to determine what is good for you to do. Let God's Word lead you in decision-making. God's Word is the lamp into your feet, and a light into your path!

SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL ROLES

There are both physical and spiritual roles for each one of us. You don't believe you are a spiritual being? No problem. You do have a spirit. It does not need to be believed in order for it to be real! Anyway, forget about that argument. Take into your heart and soul what you can be able to digest, and leave what you cannot. This is what our stomachs do when we eat our food. They just take it all, but do not use it all! They leave some work for other parts of the body.

These physical and spiritual roles can be in any level. They can be in the family level, career or personal level, or societal level. They are things we do that are helpful for the physical and spiritual part of our beings. In step one in self-discovery, we talked of our beings. We have seen that we are: spirit and physical beings. You and I are made of these two important materials. We can call them in our modern language as *software* and *hardware*.

As I type these words, my hardware and software work together. The same thing applies to my computer! Its hardware and software must agree to type what I am typing. The things we do for the physical can affect the spiritual part of us in one way or another. This is because our beings are related. It is the same as the way your brain and mine works. Our brains send messages to our limbs, and our limbs send messages back to our brains! When we see a hot coal, our sense of sight will send the message to the brain, and the brain will tell the nearest part to be careful with the hot coal.

When we step on the coal without seeing it, the leg will send the message to the part of the brain, and the brain will have to interpret the message and tell the leg to move away from danger very quickly! This is the same as how our spiritual and physical

bodies work. They are relating and working together for the good of the whole being.

For this reason, our roles are important, being physical or spiritual. We become what we eat physically, right? We also become what we put into our software! Our physical roles in the family are things like provision of food and security. As men in Africa, we are expected to protect our wives and children from any possible dangers.

We are expected to hunt for food. Remember, anything I termed physical role has to do with things that benefits the material part of us. You can do these things for your own physical body. They are those things you can do to your wife or husband. They are things you can do to your children or parents, or relatives, neighbors or community.

They are things you can do to the whole world or just your nation. They are works and functions, and roles that are meant for the physical body. You can name many of them as your mind can recall. Our physical bodies need food, water, rest, and others.

Did I forget your body needs sex? Well, many communities and people do not actually talk about sex. Sorry if this hurts you. However, I think you get the point. We all need sex! This is a physical and a psychological balm! Please learn more about sex if you can. This part may be important for the married couples, but it is good to know this fact even if you are not married yet.

Are you dating someone? Are you planning to get married? Then, learn more about the importance of sex. Sex is just one example of the things we need or want. We serve our spouses through all of these things, physically. At my house, I need food, water, shelter, and all the other things my physical body needs.

Read more about the importance of sex as a married person in 1 Corinthians 7:1-5). What if those things are not there or they are just not enough? Well, “Be content with your pay”, said John the Baptizer! There are times for everything on earth. There are times for lack, and times for enough, and so on. There is a time to be hungry, and a time to be filled with food and drink. You do not need to believe this, do you? It is a fact.

It is not a belief! It is real. It happens. There are many causes for this. However, if you know who you are, and your roles, you will know what to do. You will work hard, doing the right thing, and you will reap what you sow! The spiritual roles on the other hand, are all of those things you can do for yourself or others. These things can benefit the spiritual body.

As we need food and water for our material bodies, we need food and water for our spiritual bodies. Now, this is a picture language. It does not mean that our spiritual bodies need the physical and chemical food we eat daily. The kind of spiritual food is a kind of food that is also spiritual! It is not a physical food that we can see and touch. It is that *software update*, which is good for our software—Spirit!

My personal role to nourish my spiritual body is to study the Word of God—The Bible. Yours maybe the Quran or whatever holy book you own. Did you know you can study the Bible even if you do not believe in a god? Think about it!

The Bible is a book in the real sense! You can use it for anything you want. You can burn it. You can use it as a cigarette or as a toilet paper! This is not the good use of the book, right? However, I am trying to make a point. You can use the Bible for your own good, even if you do not believe in God. I can study the Bible for personal understanding of who I am. I love

Jeremiah 1:5. Have you ever read that? I know. It was not written to you, or to me. It was written to someone else.

However, its message applies to us even today! It reads: “*Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.*” (Jeremiah 1:5 KJV). Know and accept today that you are not an accident! You were created for a reason. You may not know the reason. This is why we have to discover whom we are, in order for us to know why we exist. It is only the Creator that knows this secret!

No one on earth will be able to tell you why you exist. God knows us, and he planned for our lives. We know this in the Bible. This is what I accept about myself! It is your own choice to accept this fact or not. Knowing this fact about whom I am before God, makes me grow in that knowledge, as I personally study the Bible. This is how I feed myself spiritually and mentally.

I also read other books written by Christians and non-Christians about life. These books are my spiritual food. Most of them will be listed for you at the end of this book. If you like them, you can get them for yourself.

My role in the family level is to help other family members understand the Bible. It is my role to help them read it, and interpret it for themselves. It is my spiritual role at the family level to read and explain the Bible to my wife and children. It is my role to help my wife learn how to relate with God.

This is a relationship, not a religion, please! What? You mean a relationship? Yes. We relate with God! He joins us in prayer. He joins fellowship and us with us, whenever we read and study his word. He gives us understanding of what the Bible is. We relate with God through our spirits. Since we are spirit beings, we also communicate with the spiritual world through our spirits. Well, you don't believe in the Bible as well?

No problem. You cannot believe in it until you discover the real you. If you know you are not just a physical being, you will love to read this book, the Bible. You will love to study it. It will bless your soul. It will nurture your inner being.

It will feed your spirit and make it grow in the things of God. It will speak to your heart and mind. It will help you understand the whole world in a different way! It will correct the view about yourself, your spouse, children, relatives, community and the whole world.

It is my role to read and understand this book. It is my role to help others understand it. I can do this in a personal level. I can also do this in a family level. I can do this in a church, chapel, classroom, and under a tree. I can share the Bible with you in this book and in other books, I have written. This is my service to you. The book was not written for the Jews or Christians alone! It was not written for those who believe only. It is the only book on earth that will help you know who you are.

Is this preaching now? Not really! It is not a preaching. It is *teaching*. It is self-discovery. It tells us what we need for our spiritual bodies. You may like other terms for our software bodies rather than the word *spiritual*.

Remember, our environment defines who we are in some sense. I mean, if you do not feel comfortable with some terms I use here, it is just because of who you are. It is just because of how you were brought up. It is all about your environment. It is all about your exposure to the world. Many people in your area might have ruled out the idea of God in their thoughts and talks, right?

Do not worry about my terms, but be eager to *understand* the ideas. I am talking about my spiritual roles. These are roles for family, relatives, friends, colleagues, neighbors, community, the whole society and me. It is my role to write books that help

others discover who they are as God knows them. It is my role to help others know and understand the Bible. This book tells us who we are.

This book tells us the mind of God. *“For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? However, we have the mind of Christ (1Corinthians 2:16 KJV).* I do not teach religion! I do teach relationship with God. Christianity is a religion. We made it into a religion. We humans are naturally religious beings as Paul the Apostle told the Athenians in those days (Acts 17:22). We just do not think about this, because it is not outside us. We do not see our own backs, unless we look through a certain mirror, right? This is the same thing with seeing our religious life. Religion is what we pretend to be and do. *Relationship* is what we love to be and be by doing it with leisure! Humans are social animals, if they are animals at all! This means we share many things, regardless of belief in a god or gods or not believing in anything.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

- Did you know you possess both physical and spiritual roles?
- What are your spiritual and physical roles for yourself?
- What are your spiritual and physical roles for your family?
- What are your physical and spiritual roles for your spouse?
- What are your physical and spiritual roles for your parents?
- What are your physical and spiritual roles for your relatives?
- What are your physical and spiritual roles for your siblings?
- What are your physical and spiritual roles for your neighbors?
- What are your physical and spiritual roles for your community?

- What are your physical and spiritual roles for your nation?
- What are your spiritual and physical roles for the whole world?
- What are your beliefs about the Bible?
- Do you read the Bible for yourself?
- Do you understand the Bible for yourself?
- Do you help others understand the Bible for themselves?

Revision – The Bible is a book. It is a book for all people of all ages, color, race and language. It is a book for people of all races and religions. It is not just a religious book! It is full of all topics human beings could ever think of. The Bible is the only book for all things in life. You need to read it, no matter if you believe in God or not. You need the Bible for wisdom. You need it to discover yourself. The book will help you know more about your physical and spiritual bodies.

It will feed you physically and spiritually. The book will make you think positive about yourself and others. It will make you a responsible person in your family, community and society. It will help you set goals for your own life. It will help you discover your weaknesses and strengths. It will help you value yourself and others as you should! The Bible will help you in your business. It will help in your school.

It will help you in your relationship with others. It will fix your broken relationship with God, spouse and other people in your community. The Bible will educate you about the basics of life and living. It will tell you things about yourself, which no one can tell you! It will teach you the meaning of life in the right way.

We all have our own ways of thinking about what life is, and what it means, but the Bible alone has the right view of life. The Bible will tell you, you are here on earth for a reason! No other book or person can be able to help you transform your life, but

the Bible can and will. It has helped millions discover who they are in the past.

Try to study about those great men and women in human history. You will discover that, almost all of them know and love the Bible. The Bible has the right view of our universe. It is not a scientific guidebook, yet it is scientifically accurate! The Bible said that, life is in the blood! This was thousands of years before our modern science was born (Leviticus 17:11). The Bible says that, the universe has a beginning! (Genesis 1-2; John 1:1-2). Anything with a beginning or a start must also have an end. The Bible says, the earth is round, and suspends in the space! (Isaiah 40:22; Job 26:7). The Bible says many other things that we can be able to observe and even discover in the real world. The other creation myths are all not accurate, and not compatible with our modern science.

Indeed, the Bible will help you have the right view of yourself, your spouse, your family, your children, your relatives, your parents, your friends, your colleagues, co-workers, community, society, nation, continent, the planet earth, and the whole universe. The universe is cosmos, logically arranged—and fine-tuned for life. This view is only found in the Bible.

If our universe is not fine-tuned, as many agree it is not, then we will not be here! Our earth must have the right *atmosphere* that makes it what it is. It must be in the exact distance from the Sun or else, we will either burn out or freeze! You may have many questions in your mind about our universe. Why are there so much evil on earth, if God has a purpose for life? Why are there so many natural disasters on earth, if the universe is fine-tuned?

These are just some of the many other questions we normally have as humans. However, remember, this is how we think. Read the Bible, and get the answers to all of these questions. What

does the Bible say about the wars, famines and other human and natural disasters on earth? Find out! Do not just ignore it! Try it and learn. Come out of the ignorance. Discover the meaning of life, and live by it as intended by the Creator!

In the Bible, you will learn about:

- Origins and Law for living (Law Books and the Gospels).
- World History (Historical Books and Acts).
- Wisdom (Wisdom Books and Letters).
- The Future (Prophetic Books and Revelation).

III

Chapter 3: Accepting Yourself

Accepting the Facts

As mentioned earlier, many of us nowadays, hate the word, ‘belief’. Instead of using the term, “*Believe*”, I have decided to replace it with the word ‘*accept*’, in many cases. To accept something is true is to agree that, that thing is true. To believe is to *accept* that something or an idea is true or correct. So, what is the conflict here? I just do not see the differences in that context.

In this step of self-discovery journey, I want us to look at the real us once again. As we have noticed earlier, we are not just material beings, are we? We are made out of software and hardware. This illustration fits well into our computing generation. We cannot see our spiritual bodies. We cannot touch them. However, reality is not all about what we can know by our senses! Reality is still real even if our senses could not be able to detect it. We cannot see bacteria, parasites, or viruses unless we have to use some fabricated tools!

Yet, these small things exist. We don’t need to believe or *accept* they do exist, do we? Accept your physical and spiritual bodies. They live together in unity, or you are not a complete living person. When the two parts separate, a human being becomes dead! We become corpses when our spiritual bodies leave the physical bodies. This is another way to know we are not just one

part or element! We are made of the two parts. Missing one is messing up the whole system.

If you have a problem with the word ‘*belief*’, then you can *accept* this truth about you. Accepting this truth is the only door for your self-discovery! It is the basic fact about you, which will open the whole world of opportunities and possibilities. You only have to accept and live by this basic truth daily. Be conscious you are made of two materials. Discover what you can do to nourish both of these elements of you.

Unless you accept yourself and your roles—Step 1 and 2, you cannot practice them—Step 4. In step one and two above, we talked more about knowing or discovering the real you and discovering your roles. These steps were meant to inform you—head knowledge. This step three is meant to help you absolve what was put into your mind—heart knowledge. So, think of step three as a digestion process, not a repetition of what was said in step one and two above.

We eat food. It enters our stomachs through the food pipe, not windpipe! We then digest the food using the digestive system. The digestive process starts in the mouth! For this reason, we have started digesting this food even in step one and two. We have begun preparing, chewing and swallowing the food in the first two chapters. However, this was not done in a perfect way. This is why we need to digest it even better, here in step three, before we could use it in our bodies.

We have to accept the teachings before we apply them into our daily living. The first thing in accepting or believing in the real you is all about knowing you are both a physical and a spiritual being. Not just one of these *elements* is the complete you! They must all exist to make you who you are. Then, this will also help you discover your weaknesses and strengths. You may have

spiritual weaknesses. You may have physical weaknesses. You may not even know or think about these weaknesses and strengths until you have to learn and discover who you are. You have to accept the real you, before you could improve on the things that you need to improve on.

I cannot write books, if I have no idea, what writing is. I could not edit my books if I never tried to discover what it means to edit my own books. This could not be confused of ignorance! Others may just accept who they are right now, and that is all. They stop improving because they accept the lie about who they are. The situation, feeling or any other event does not define the real you.

The real you is defined by the real you! It is defined by who you are made of. It is defined by what you *accept* about you! If you accept or believe you are just nobody, then you will actually be nobody! This will be discussed in more details later on in this step. This is not about knowing and accepting the situation or the problem you are facing only, it is also about knowing what you can do. It helps you know and accept the real you and live accordingly!

When you accept the real you, you look back into the past, present, and into the future. I mean, you see how far you have come, and see where you are now in the journey of self-discovery. Then, you look into your future. Your today's life is defined by what you did for it and about it yesterday.

What your day will be tomorrow is defined by what you think and do for it today! So, accept the real you, and discover your potential abilities, strengths, weaknesses and talents. You have your own gifts, talents, and likes. You have your own dislikes. This is who you are! However, never stop there! After discovering yourself and your roles—step 1 and 2, you have to

accept them before you practice them. This will give you power to practice your real self.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

- Do you accept you are a spiritual and physical being?
- Do you know you have both physical and spiritual abilities?
- Do you accept your spiritual and physical weaknesses?
- Do you accept yourself the way you are?
- Do you accept others the way they are?
- Do you help others accept who they are?
- Did you know that situations and challenges do not define who you are?
- Did you know that problems come and go?
- Did you digest this fact into your whole system?

Revision – We must accept the real us, not the situation we find ourselves in! We are physical as well as spiritual bodies. This is a fact, not a thought! We are not wishing to be both spiritual and physical. This is what we are. We have to accept the fact, not believe it. It does not matter if we believe it or not. It is still a reality that we are made of two important parts, the *hardware* and the *software*.

You have to accept your abilities, both physical and spiritual. Accepting these truths will help you digest them deep inside your soul and spirit. This will help you know and accept the positive things about you. We naturally do not see the positive things about others and ourselves.

We always fail to see what is good in others. This book is helping us to accept and appreciate ourselves just the way we are! You have your own unique physical strengths. You have your own spiritual strengths that you need to discover and accept, and live

by. You also have both physical and spiritual weaknesses that you must identify and work hard to improve. Knowing these weaknesses is not the end of you. It is the beginning of success! Your success begins when you know and accept your weaknesses. No one can fight an enemy and expect to win the war, if they know nothing about the enemy! The same thing is like that of knowing your own weaknesses. Knowing them and accepting them is your greatest strength!

ACCEPTING THE POSITIVE ABOUT YOU

The idea of accepting the positive about you is important to understand. It is part of accepting the real you. It actually goes an extra mile, after accepting you are not just a physical being. It is another level of the digestive process. It will teach you how to discover and learn the positive things about you.

We have just talked about accepting the software and hardware of the real you. Now, we are talking about moving forward in accepting and identifying *just* what is positive about you. There are many weaknesses in your spiritual and physical life! However, is that all you need to know? Is that what you are? Your weaknesses do not define the real you.

They do define your trials and attempts to live as you want to. They tell you where you are in the progress level in your journey of self-discovery. Each one of us must walk this journey in, and alone! The fact is that, there are many positive things about you! Just take time and find out those positive things about you.

Well, someone else at the end of the globe may surely consider what I consider positive as something negative! So, what is positive? I believe there are common positive things that we can agree about. I mean, I *accept*. Scarification is a negative thing, right? I mean facial scarification. I have written a book about this, and it is called, **The Scarification Guide**. It was written about

the facial scarification in South Sudan. You might have seen a Sudanese with some marks in his or her forehead one day, right? Well, that is the scarification marking. Did you like it? Did you wonder why it was there? Well, read my free book above to find out more about all those questions.

The point here is that, others can see what we see as something positive as negative. Can we rule out that there is nothing positive about ourselves? I do not think so. No one loves to be known as a failed person, even if they are! Being a successful person is expected of all people. However, this does not stop failure from existing. It is a positive thing to accept you can win, and work for that. However, win what?

You can succeed in whatever you do. However, not really in everything you do! Now, accepting the positive is thinking positive and hoping that what you do will work fine. Your mindset will help you do the right thing at the right time, and this may help you win. It is my acceptance of writing, editing, publishing and marketing my own books that give me courage to face such a challenging world, alone!

It is a wild beast! It is a hungry lion! Do not try it if you do not *accept* or believe you can overcome the editing of your own book. I accept my success! It was like a dreaming, but it became real. I can do all things myself, not because I am better than you are, but because I *accept* the positive about me. You get it friend?

Begin to learn what you can do well. Identify your positives, and work hard to make them what you want them to be. You do not need to believe there are many things you can do well in your life. You just need to accept and find them out. I believe and *accept* that, finding out your strengths will help you in every area of your life and work. Being optimistic about yourself, is accepting the positive about you. Being pessimistic about yourself is accepting

the negative about you! It is all a kind of mindset that will either lift you up, or bring you down to the pit! It all depends on what you *accept* about you.

Know both the positive and the negative about you, and then learn to *accept* and work towards the positive. This for sure, will not guarantee you will not have any failures or mistakes in your life. It just helps you think and do positive things most of the time. You are likely to be optimistic or pessimistic or even both! However, be more optimistic than being pessimistic.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

- Are you pessimistic about yourself?
- Are you optimistic about yourself?
- Do you think positive about yourself?
- Are you both pessimistic and optimistic about yourself?
- What do you like most about yourself?
- What do you hate most about yourself?
- Do you think you can improve your thinking about yourself?
- Do you have any hope for a good change in your thinking about yourself?
- What can you do to improve your thinking about who you are?
- Do you accept both positive and negative things about you?

Revision – Sometimes situations and challenges can overcome our thoughts about us, and about everything around us. I know this of myself. It is a fact that we all have to experience. We lose hope when things are not happening the way we want them to happen. We even act like if this is the end of the world! We have

lost hope that South Sudan is going to *achieve* peace in 2015. However, anything with a start must have an end!

In a personal level, we must *accept* the positive about who we are! This means, we must think positively, regardless of the challenges we may be experiencing right now. This does not mean that we have to sit back and expect things to change for our good! It simply means taking courage and doing the right things to help change such a situation.

Remember, we become what we eat? We also become what we put into our minds, and what we take into our hearts. We mostly learn by seeing or hearing things, right? Therefore, as you read this book, you are feeding your mind. If the content does not fit to your mindset, then you may not read from the beginning to where you are now. This is why our mindset is important.

What we accept to be true, whether it is based on the empirical evidence or not, it is our truth. Not anything against that truth in our minds is true. Whatever we believe about ourselves, is what we are! You get the point. If you believe or *accept* to be poor, then, you will be poor! How? You will be poor because you will not do what will eradicate your lack. I mean, you will not allow the spirit of work to enter your heart and hands. We do what we believe, so we are what we believe.

I cannot write this book if I do not believe I can do it. Many people know many things more than I do, but because they believe they cannot be able to write a book about what they know, they never try it. Some people are convinced they do not know enough yet. They will wait until they know many things, then, they will begin to write. This never happens! People grow older every day. They will end up writing nothing about their knowledge.

However, I cannot convince everyone to write books. If I do this, I am not right, because it is not everyone that can write books. It is my role to write books. It may not be your role to do certain things. However, you have something to do! Even if you cannot write a book, you have a different career that you need to find out if you do not know it yet. This is self-discovery! Find out your career. Find out what you can do with leisure. Know yourself and then think positively.

Do not ignore the challenges you face, but know that they are your footsteps towards your goals and achievements ahead of you, in life journey. Just do not accept the lie that you are not able to do anything! You cannot do everything, and in fact, you do not even need to think that way. I mean, do not think you can do all things very well. This is not only a lie, but also a deception. Believe you can do what you are able to do. Believe you are who you are. Know the fact that there is none like you on earth!

Your fingerprint testifies this fact. You are not even your father, mother or siblings. You are not the same as your identical twin sister or brother. You are a different and the only *you* on the face of the earth. This is the fact about you. You do not need to believe it for it to be true, do you?

ACCEPTING YOUR ROLES

After accepting the positive about what you are, you have to move on. The next thing to do is to accept the roles that are yours. We have talked about many other roles in step 1 and 2 above. This step takes us to accepting our roles. We were informed about our roles in step 1 and 2, but here we are urged to *accept* them. This point also defines what your roles are and what they are not.

This is based on my worldview. It may not work with you, just because our worldviews may not be the same. You do not have

to agree with everything I said! Accepting your roles simply means believing in what you are able to do. I have accepted my role of writing, preaching, teaching, computing, editing, publishing and marketing my own books. This is my role. I do not ask other people to do the work for me, because I can do it! You see.

You are whom you are as mentioned several times in this book. You have your roles. However, do you know your roles? Remember, you have roles that are career oriented! You have roles in different levels in your society. You have family roles. You have roles in a community. You have roles in a national level. Your career roles can extend to any level of service.

Do you know your roles? Check step 1 and 2 above for more information. Do you accept your roles? This is what we are discussing here. Accepting our roles does not mean that we have to accept everything; it simply means we accept things we are able to do. Is it my role to lead a nation as a president?

Only if I believe I can. Right now, I want to lead the nation in a different way. I want to lead the nation in writing books. These books will help the individual persons to know who they are. These books will help people in their career development.

At the end of the day, I will contribute to the real development of the nation and the whole world. If a country like South Sudan is made up of the individual people, then the development of the whole nation must begin at the individual level. We can do this by educating the individuals. We can educate people through writing, preaching and teaching.

That is why I am writing books that I believe will help those who read them. These books will help people know who they are – self-discovery. It is my role. I have *accepted* it. No one told me to

be a writer. I have discovered my roles and I have accepted them. I cannot do anything unless I believe and accept I can!

QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

- Do you accept your roles in your society?
- Do you accept your personal roles?
- Do you know the different between your roles and those that are not yours?
- How do you differentiate your roles and those that are not yours?
- Do you accept your personal roles and abilities?
- Do you accept your roles in the family level?
- Do you accept your roles in a clan level?
- Do you accept your roles in the community?
- Do you accept your roles in your nation?
- Do you accept your roles in the world at large?

Revision – I personally accept my personal roles. These roles are things I can be able to do myself. These include writing, teaching and preaching. These same roles can be applied in the family level. Remember, the point of this step is to drive home the first two steps (1-2) in self-discovery journey. We have to *accept* our roles before we practice them!

In my family, I accept my family roles. I am a father, and a husband. My first role is to love my wife as I love myself! I have to love her not only partly, but the whole of her. This love is not found without accepting one's own duties in the family. I have to be informed to love my wife beyond loving her physical body.

This is because my wife is more than a physical being. She is having the *software* and the *hardware*, and loving her means loving her as a whole being! My other role in the family that I must *accept*

before I do it is being a breadwinner! I work harder to produce food for my family. This is my role in the family level as a man. This is not free from my worldview as well.

The other role I have to accept in the family level is love and care for my kids and other beneficiaries. In Africa, a family is made up of the husband, wife, children and the other biological relatives. This is mostly due to the economic issues. I am the educated person. I have a job. My other relatives are likely to seek help from me. I may pay the dowry for other people. Some of these activities and responsibilities may not be my direct roles.

There are things we can do, not because we deserve to do them, but because we are forced by a situation. These are optional roles that we may accept or not accept, depending on what the situation is. I have to help others in need of my help. This may not be a direct role, but if someone is in need, then that situation they are in, will force me to help them. They trust I can help them. That is why they may come to me for help. Many other people have helped me when in need, so why can't I help others in need?

In short, I have roles to accept. I have accepted my personal roles. I have accepted the family roles mentioned several times in this book. I also have to accept some roles in my community. My role in my community is to advocate for peace, reconciliation, harmony and stability. It is my role to teach and preach peace in the community. However, I must live in peace in my family, in order for the people to *accept* my preaching and teaching to be realistic! You see it? It is not that easy to accept roles when we do not practice them – step 4.

IV

Chapter 4: Practicing the Real Knowledge

Practicing Your Roles

After *discovering* and *accepting* yourself and your roles, what remains is putting them into *practice*. This is the most important and the difficult part. This fourth step in self-discovery can be called the ‘*hands knowledge*’. It is the practical part of what we have discovered and accepted to be true about ourselves. We have been *informed* ‘head knowledge’, we have *accepted* the information we have received, ‘heart knowledge’, and now we are *practicing* the information we have received and accepted or believed to be true, and we call this ‘hand knowledge’ as mentioned above.

We all have roles in different levels—Step 2. We cannot discover our roles until we have the right view of what we are—Step 1. We cannot practice this truth if we do not *accept* it for whatever reasons – Step 3. Again, at the end of this book, I have added one important thing! It is about going deeper into knowing who we are.

There is a reason for my views and thoughts. There is a factor or an idea that influenced by thinking and worldview. This is what you will get at the end of the book. For now, let us have a look at our roles once again. This is not to repeat, but to *enforce* what we have talked about already. We all have career roles. These are things we are able to do individually. Some writers call them

talents. Some call them abilities. Whatever name we give them, they are all our roles. We do these things. We also have family level roles. These are things we are able to do, not as career *only*, but they are things we do for the family.

They include things we may not love doing. They can include our career roles as well. Remember, our career is developed by what we know about who we are. If your parents abuse you for example, you will always think negatively about yourself! This is not a good thing, is it? I mean, we parents, we are told to teach our children well in the fear of the Lord.

This has nothing to do with religion! It is a simple and very helpful tip in family life. We do not need to be religious in order to teach our children and correct them when we need to. It is our role as parents to teach our children to respect other people around us—neighbors. Before we practice our roles, we must know them. I cannot mention every role in this book! Roles can depend on our culture, right?

In my culture, I cannot cook, even if my wife just delivered our wonderful baby two minutes ago! Well, it also depends on the situation. Some of these cultural things are going away. Nevertheless, I hope you have the point? All we need to know and work on in this part is to identify our roles as much as we can.

Our career roles may extend to our family, community and society levels. I love giving you my own examples of my own roles. I may not even mention all my roles and duties in this book. However, the point is simple that, each one of us has something to do. Our culture, religion, education and the environment may influence these roles where we were raised. They can be influenced by the kind of parents or guardians we have. If you were brought up in a hostile home and community,

me too! However, this is not the obstacle for us. It is actually, what will make us do the opposite to our kids. Do not try to pay back what your parents did to you! This can be difficult to fix, since we become what we have been made to be, by the environment. This is the heart of this book. This book is meant to help you and me, think and live differently from others in our community. The book is to help us discover the real us, not what we may know about who we are from the outside world.

The outside world here can be our friends, relatives or even the peer pressure itself! Change is always difficult. However, it is the one of the permanent things in human history! Things change. Our physical bodies change as we grow older everyday! We actually die every day! Did you know this fact? We are dying daily, physically. However, our real us, never dies! Is that *religion*? Not really. There is nothing religious in facts. We are talking about facts here. Nothing is exaggerating, here I believe.

Change becomes easy, if we *know* and *accept* who we are, just as we are! This means, if we are disabled, we are not useless still! We may not be able to do other things, but we are who we are! Have you ever heard of people with no limbs and they are an impression to the whole world? This is because they *believe* and *accept* who they are, just as they are.

There are people with all the money you and I may want to have, yet they are depressed, angered, sad and even look and feel very miserable! Practicing our roles includes knowing the real things about you. I cannot do what I can do well until I know it is my role. We have discussed this truth so much in this book. Now, we are *enforcing* it into our minds, so that it becomes what we are in reality—real world.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

- What do you do for a living?
- Do you love doing what you do?
- What forces you to do what you are doing?
- What can you do to stop doing what you do, and do the real thing you love?
- Do you practice your own career roles?
- In what level are you practicing your roles?
- Do you practice your family roles as you should?
- Do you practice your community roles?
- What defines your career, family, community and national roles?
- Have you ever done anything in your community level?
- Have you ever practiced your societal roles?
- Have you discovered your roles can affect the whole world?

Revision – Our roles can be called talents, abilities, careers or even gifts. They can be in a career level, and this is what I called personal level. You can do what you love doing, and this may help you financially. This is why we must work not to get money, but because we love and value what we are doing. Many of us are working because of money or any other outside *force*. I have been that excessively.

However, I have discovered that, for me to *deliver* better services, I must love what I do. Your roles can be in a family level. They can be influenced by many other factors, including, culture, religion, education and the environment where you lived. Yet, the fact is, we all have a talent to practice.

We must know what we are able to do before we do it. This is the heart of this book. This book is teaching us about who we are. We are both physical and spiritual beings. You may use other terms for these facts, such as *software* and *hardware*. Therefore, we

have career roles—things we are able to do, and do them with joy and happiness. We are not forced to do what we love doing! We do it because we love doing it. We love doing it because of many other reasons and factors. Our roles may sometimes extend to different levels. Our roles may expand even to the whole world. You are reading my book, and you may live on the other side of the globe.

You may live right down where I am sitting right now! Why? Because science taught us that, there are no difficulties. For example, you may fly northwards until you end up coming back to where you get started from the south, just behind you! Have you ever thought of this *fact* before? You do not need to believe it, in order for it to be real, do you?

You may also dive into the soil directly from where you are standing or sitting, and end up coming out of the earth from the other side of the globe! Wow. What a truth? For example, if you dive downwards, just at a 90-degree angle (right angle), you may end up pushing me up where I am sitting on the other side of the globe! You may end up somewhere underneath someone, or under someone in a toilet! You may come out under by cooking stove! You may come out of the sea, river, and mountain, just to name a few.

You were diving downward. However, you will be diving upwards instead! This is also another *real* world fact, isn't it? This is how our world is like. We can only have the full view of the world when we explore it. History tells us about men and women who explored the whole world. Their discoveries are what we enjoy today. So discover the *real you* and live by it daily.

HELPING OTHERS KNOW THEIR ROLES

Now, after knowing my roles, I have to accept and practice them. I also would love to help you know your roles. I also want you to

accept and *practice* yours. It is also true that, it takes you to accept what you are, and do what you can be able to do. You can help others know who they are, but only those who are willing to learn! There are people who cannot *accept* the truth about who they are. This is because they already *accepted* what they think they are.

There are people who cannot read or write, and this is not because they have eye problems, but because they *accept* the lie—they cannot read! In short, it takes others' acceptance for you to help them come out of what they are in right now. However, this does not mean you cannot try to help. It will take your time and effort to accept what I am telling you, in order for it to take a positive effect in your life.

Remember, we become what we eat! This is real. You do not have to accept it in order for it to be what it is. It is happening daily. It is just like saying you are both a physical and a spiritual being. You do not need to believe it in order for it to be real. It is just as real as you and I are. However, is it your role to help others know their duties? To me, it is mine.

To you, it may not be yours. It all depends on what we believe or *accept* to be true to us. However, I wish you know it is your role to help others know about their abilities. You can only do this to people in your reach. I can try to do this to you and many others across the globe.

I can do this through writing, teaching and preaching. I have helped thousands of people on the web about how to write, edit, publish and market their own works. These works can be books, videos, audio and other things that they really love doing. I am here helping you understand the *real you* from the common and basic facts. These facts are about your physical and spiritual parts. You can also do the same to others. You can help others know

who they are. You can help them identify their interests and have their own goals in life. You may do this much better than I have done to you! You can help others know their strength, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. This is called SWOT in leadership and management studies. The importance of this for people to know all these facts is that they will know what they are. They will know what they can do and do it. They will identify their roles and put them into practice.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

- Did you know it is your role to help others know themselves and their roles?
- Have you ever helped others know their roles in different levels?
- Are you helping others know their roles?
- Will you be helping others know their roles in different levels?
- Is it important to you that you help others know their roles?

Revision – It is indeed your role to help others know their roles. It is my duty to help others know their roles. I did not know this fact automatically. I have to read or speak to someone who knows this fact before I could accept it, and take it for my own use. You are doing the same thing if you are reading this book.

You have to accept your own roles after knowing what they are. After that, you can teach others the same things. It is my role to help others learn how to do things. There are thousands of people who like what I like. These are my audiences! I am speaking to these people. If you do not believe in yourself, and your abilities, then you may not personally enjoy reading my books.

My books are self-discovery books. They are tools for those who want to improve and move forward in life's journey. I *accept* and believe that it is my role to write this book of self-discovery. I know someone will be helped after reading this book. This book does not say you have no idea of all the topics discussed in it. It will only enforce what you already **know** and what you already **accept** about you. It will give you the power to go ahead.

This book will improve the way you think about yourself. The ideas in the book may sound new to you. They may look strange. However, if you take them to heart, you will be *transformed*. Your mind will be refocused to the realities about yourself and others around you. It will help you know the facts about you.

It will help you guide other people who are willing to be helped. This is not praise for this book. It is all about the reality that this book will expose to its readers. You can help others know their roles in your own ways. This means you do not have to be a writer like me, in order for you to help others know their careers!

You can teach others, you can speak to others and you can do a lot more things than this book can do. What this book is after, is giving you the facts and *arming* you with all the armors you need for this journey. All you need to know is to know yourself. Know your own roles and abilities. These may surely differ greatly from mine! When you know yourself, you will know your roles. When you know your roles, you are going to help others know theirs, and you can do this in a variety of ways.

HELPING OTHERS PLAY THEIR ROLES

When others know their roles, they must also practice them. Remember our logic? Our minds must be *informed*—**head knowledge**. We must *accept* the information to be true—**heart knowledge**. We must also put the information into *action*—**hands knowledge**. For this reason, we must help others practice

what they know. Well, once again, the results depend on the person you are trying to help. If they do not believe you, you can do absolutely nothing in their lives! I cannot convince someone to begin writing a book, if they do not believe this to be true. Sorry, I mean, if they do not *accept* this to be true. There are some readers with personal problem with words, such as belief or God. These words are losing their real meaning!

They are associated with religion. Religion is one great factor that divides human societies. This also is another *fact*. I am a follower of Jesus. I would like others to follow him. However, religion is deadly. History is telling us daily that religion is a disease that must be *treated*! Remember, Christianity is a religion. We have made it into a religion.

It supposed to be a *relationship* with God, the people around us and the whole world. May be my definition of religion is what you never expect? Well, what we believe is what we are. I do not believe religion can help us help others or ourselves. It actually does the opposite. However, I will talk more about what I *accept* to be good and true in the following step—Step 5.

We can help others play their roles after we help them know what those roles are. They also have to *accept* their roles before they put them into *practice*. They have roles that are personal—careers. In addition, roles that is in different levels. Each human being has both career roles and other roles outside themselves.

We have family, community and societal roles. We have roles in the country. However, our career roles can expand to the ends of the world! This means our roles can be played in different levels, and in different ways. Helping others discover themselves and their roles will help them play their roles in different areas. However, this will work only if the people *accept* the duties and roles to be theirs.

You do not need to know every individual person's roles, so that you can teach them. You do need to know and *accept* the facts that each person is not useless as they may think. This is the heart of this book. Accept that each human being, no matter how they look like from the outside, has a role to play. They have roles in different areas in our human society. I do not need to know your roles. However, I need to tell you the *fact* that you have roles to play.

You have roles for different levels. You are responsible for *finding* out your own roles. You are the one to *practice* your roles. This is the same thing when you want to help others. They are responsible for everything to work fine for them. You only help them *accept* the truths and facts involved. You are facilitating the positive thinking in them.

When helping others in this journey, we need to live what we tell them! Speak what you *accept* to be true, and do it! If not, the listeners or readers will get confused between the two different things. Our lives preach more than our words do! You may not be a preacher. You do not need to be one.

However, whatever you say must reflect what you know about yourself. Sometimes I feel angry and speak nonsense. This is because feelings like *anger*, comes and go. This is another fact in our lives today. Do not build your home on feelings! They are not stable. That is why we confuse the sexual feelings with *love*. We tell our girlfriends we love them, when in fact we are feeling *sexy* of them!

These are two different things. Yes, we may not feel sexy of someone who does not look impressive to us. This statement is true. However, remember, men are not the same as women. We have our biological differences with women as men. We feel sexy just because of the outside appearance of a woman.

Ladies do not look at men on the outside part. They seem to look deeper in a man! This is why when a woman loves a man, it does not matter how he looks from the outside world.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

- Did you know it is your role to help others play their own roles?
- Have you ever helped someone play his or her roles in different levels?
- Are you helping someone play his/her roles?
- How can you help someone play his or her roles?
- Do you need to know all the roles of others before you help them play them?
- What is important about helping others play their own roles?
- Did you know that career roles can expand to the whole world?
- Did you know helping others must force us to play our own roles first?

Revision – It is your role to help others know and play their roles in different levels. This can be in a career development level. It can be in a family, community, society, national and even an international level. People need to know that their roles and duties are very important for the goodness of us all. Your own roles are important. My roles are important, aren't they?

Someone asked me some minutes ago. He said, “*John, why are you wearing differently today, anything especially?*” I said, *no*. Nothing is special. I forgot to tell him, *I am writing a new book!* This writing itself can make me think and act in a different way. This is how our minds affect how we work. We may not know it, but the fact is that, what we do is what we think.

You cannot change the way someone think. However, you can help them change the way they think! If you can help them *understand* the need for change, then they can do the change by themselves. This is how this book can help others. We cannot force change to happen to people, unless they *accept* our ways of thinking and living. This means every individual person has a role to play, even in knowing and practicing his or her own roles! It is my role to *accept* what I called the *truth*, before I could make use of it. What we do can speak more than we can imagine.

This is why we need to speak and do what we say. It is not easy to keep our promises, but it is better to keep *trying*. I know it is my role to teach people. Teach them what? Teach them all I know. These can be things that I discovered in life. I can teach people through my own life stories.

I have experienced many things. You cannot know about my walk unless you read about it. I have a series of books known as **Personal Journalism**. This series is made up of my journeys through life. These journeys and all that happened and still happening to me is interpreted according to my worldview and faith. That is why in the last step in this self-discovery guide, we will talk more about what has shaped my life to what it is now. This section is also meant for both believers and non-believers alike.

Someone unique is *true* about me. Not only about how I was created, *evolved* or made, but also about what was revealed to me in my life journey. This revelation is my life story. It is composed of the things that happened to me in the real world, as well as things in the abstract world—the spiritual world. You do not need to be religious in order to *accept* that our beliefs and faith affect our beings! It is a fact that is realistic, and it is taking place right now.

We do not need to believe it or *accept* it in order for it to be realistic. My faith can be called *religion*. However, faith is not always religion. It is all about what we perceive to be true. Faith is what we *accept* to be true. This affects how we think and behave. It affects the whole of our beings.

My faith in myself affects me in different ways, depending on what that faith is. If I *accept* the negative things about myself, I will always be negative to myself and to my world. The opposite is true if I *accept* the positive about who I am. This means we cannot play our roles until we know them. We cannot help others practice their own roles until we help them know their roles. We cannot help others know, accept and practice their own roles until we know ours, accept and practice them.



Chapter 5: Knowing and Living For Jesus

Who Is Jesus?

This question can receive different answers. The answer depends on whom you are asking. The first disciples of Jesus Christ in the Bible had different answers to the same question. This was based on their understanding of him. Each one of us has at least a different view of the Jesus of the Bible.

If you do not believe he existed, that is just fine. This is your view of him as well. In this context, we are not defining what or who Jesus was. We are reflecting on what or who he is to us. More importantly, I am here telling you who Jesus is to me personally, and how this view of him affected my life.

This view has affected many people's lives. This man influenced the founders of our modern science. You do not need to believe this fact in order for it to be real. I will mention some of these great people for you in this step of self-discovery.

People like Isaac Newton were not just Christians by religion—faith. They were *devoted* to it more than we can imagine. Their faith of Jesus and the Bible as a book helped them think positively about themselves, and about the world around them. That is why they were able to investigate what the Bible said about our universe. The right word for the universe is *cosmos*, which means *order*. This means the universe is *fine-tuned*.

It is only the Bible that gives us the right view of the universe and ourselves as human beings. This does not only help us think positively about our universe and ourselves, it helps us act responsibly, here on earth. It helps us study the universe around us since it is logically arranged, understandable and knowable! The other books such as other creation myths are not *real*. They are not based on *facts* that can be confirmed empirically.

They are merely human ways of thinking. However, the Bible can be confirmed in the real world. You do not need to believe this. No belief is required to make this statement real. It is as real as you and I are! Therefore, in this section, I will tell you what I know and *believe* about Jesus. You do not have to believe these facts. They happened to me. They have changed my thoughts and my life.

These facts are inspiring me to write books that I believe will also help others like you, who may be willing to be helped. The way Jesus lived, has affected me to think and live positively. It has given me a new view of others, the whole creation and myself. It has given me a new view of the whole world. It has shaped my thinking and life. It is the source of everything you have read about in this book. It does not matter to me whether Jesus lived or not! What?

Yes. I mean, it does not change anything whether we *accept* or believe there was a man called Jesus of Nazareth, who lived about 2000 years ago in the *Middle East*. The stories in the Gospel do not have to be exact in order for us to *accept* they are real. I know. This is a very strange view. Christians and none Christians alike may not give them a room. However, they are facts! These are my views of Jesus. These are not what I want Jesus to be. They are who he is to me. They are purely my thoughts and knowledge of him. Whether Jesus lived on earth or not, I just love such a

character, and I would love to think and live like him! You see the point?

No time to argue on the issue. We do not have to argue whether Jesus lived or not. I am only telling my story of Jesus and how I met him in my journey of self-discovery. Let me tell you the story. Some people call this a testimony. It is my experience with this person called Jesus. It may be just an idea or thought, as some people think today. No problem whether we believe or we do not believe there was someone called Jesus. It just does not matter how we see the whole thing!

We have our own views of Jesus, don't we? As I said, you may believe the lie that Jesus never existed! This is a *lie* because we have both *internal* and *external* sources that confirm Jesus was a *real person*. For more information about these facts check out the **Y-Jesus Articles**. <http://www.y-jesus.com/>.

For evidences and information, read the Gospels—*Matthew* through *John*. Don't believe the Bible at large? Try to read it and study it for yourself. You can do this to confirm your rejection of it. Make sure your rejection of it is not based on negative views about what it is. Some people simply hate the Bible, just because it is a religious book.

The Bible is not just a religious book. It is simply a book! You can use it as a toilet paper if you wish. It was written not to the religious folks! Men wrote it for many years. It is the oldest book in the world. It was the first book printed. Yet, its message is as new as you can ever imagine. The Bible has transformed lives of individuals as well as that of nations. Looking down on this *fact book* is pure ignorance!

Do not just assume the Bible is what people say it is. Read it and understand it for your own benefits. There are many lessons to learn from this book. It can help you know who you are. It was

not written to you, yet it is talking about the basic facts that are directly affecting your life daily. It has all the advice you need for thoughts and actions.

I have dive in to the Bible again because it is the book that has recorded more *facts* about Jesus Christ. I call these facts simply because they can easily be traced and confirmed outside the Bible itself. However, I did not just believe the facts in the Bible. I have tested them. They have been found to be true. If so, then, the topic about the life of Christ is based on reality. Jesus lived 2000 years ago. I can know him personally. His thoughts and actions influenced me in many ways. You need to know this person personally, in order for you to understand and make a good use of this *self-discovery guide*.

It is the reason behind all the thoughts you have read about throughout this book. What gave me all the knowledge you have read about in the first steps is Jesus! I put myself in the place of those people that Jesus was serving in those days. I look at myself through him.

Jesus gave me the worldview that, any human being is important. He helped me know that the universe was created for a purpose! You don't believe in this fact? No problem. If you can provide any evidence that there is no *purpose* for living apart from disasters that have been foretold in the Bible itself, I will agree with you. If you cannot provide any evidence, then you had better join me in the journey of purposeful-living. Our world is full of bad news. People kill themselves and others in the name of religion. Well, they do this in the name of politics as well!

This is why I hate religion! However, *I love the Jesus idea kind of thing*. The religious people killed Jesus. However, what does this mean? Why did the religious people kill him? They killed him

simply because he was not religious like them! He was not seeing religion as a man's own way to God.

He was focusing and still focuses on *relationship* with God, as the most important part of the coin. This is why I love Jesus. Are we humans known as social animals? Well, if we are animals at all. I do not *accept* we are animals. If we do, we are a special kind. We are created or at least evolved for a purpose.

This is part of the positive thinking. Imagine if you believe the lie that you are useless. What will happen to the rest of your life? Of course, you will be what it is only if you believe the lie. Personally, I believe and *accept* that Jesus Christ was a *real* person. Why? Because I *accept* the Bible to be what it claims to be. It is true that millions of people who believe the Bible as God's own Word *can* be all wrong. However, for this statement to be true, we need some empirical evidences and facts. For this truth, all the millions of believers are right. Find out why by reading the Bible itself.

Okay, but how did Jesus make you think and act in the way you do Mr. John? Good question! You are now talking! I love that. I will tell you the story. You do not need to believe or *accept* it to be true. It is just as real as I am. It is as real as you are. It is as real as the natural universe is. I am the eyewitness of it all. You just need to join me in the journey.

Read and listen to the story. After my mother passed on, somewhere around May, 1996, something happened to me. It was in a place called *Mayom*. For the full narratives about this place, check out my **Journeying with God Part I**. It was in this place where I went to a church. The church was about four miles away from my *Village*. It was in a place called *Meer*.

My aunt who was about my age, but she was older than I was, told me something one day was. It was about their choir activities

at the church. One Friday afternoon, my aunt named Rebecca *Buk Pal* told me to go to church with her. We went. As I set down on a clay-made kind of a bench, I listened to their spiritual songs. I felt the need to be there, *just to listen*. After they were done, we left the church and we came back to our village, which lies west of that place.

The other Friday, Rebecca was about to go back to church, for their weekly song practices. This time, she did nothing to me. However, I personally came and asked her if we can go together again. We went! This time, the choir captain named *Bayak Kuany* has noticed me! He then asked me of my name. Then, I told him my name. They continued singing their songs. *Bayak* later on asked me if I can join the choir as a member.

I then accepted the offer. Was that all? Not really. This was the starting point. It is the story of how I joined the church. I did not see Christ yet. However, this was the moment I experienced what it means to attend a church gathering. The other week, we went to church on Sunday. I then listened to preaching. Someone talked things my ear wants to hear.

However, I could not understand most of the things he was saying. Most of the things he said were *religious*. He was an evangelist from the common denomination in Upper Nile. Any idea what that denomination is? It was the Presbyterian Church of the Sudan. I was then a member of that church for three years. I was part of the choir. I began to compose and write songs!

Yet, I did not know who Jesus was. Then, I have begun reading my Bible. This Bible was called *Ruac Kuoth in Thiak* in Nuer, meaning the *New Testament*, since there was no complete Bible in the community at that time. This was what we know today as the New Testament in the Nuer Language. I began reading the Bible

from the end—*Revelation*. Was that because of the Arabic influence?

I do not think so. I never learned how to read and write in Arabic in those days. This book of the Bible talks of the end of the world and the future things. I got so scared of these future *facts* about our world! I needed help! However, where can I get help from? My father's gods could not help me. These gods disowned me. They are as weak as other created things.

I need help from the things to come. I wanted to escape the *wrath* to come. I cannot help myself! Then, I became a friend to the Bible. It was in November, 1999 that I first prayed without eating. We call this *fasting* in its religious terms. I did not eat or drink anything for twelve hours that day. Do you know what I was praying for? I hope not. However, I will tell you.

I was praying for few things to take place in my life. The first thing I prayed for was for me to receive *Water Baptism*, a kind of a religious ritual, isn't it? Remember, there were no pastors those days in this region. I cannot tell why there were no pastors there. I think it was because of war. Most of them were also in the main towns such as *Malakal* and other towns. The second thing I was praying for was the *Complete Bible*. I have heard about the whole Bible, but I never seen how it looks like. People called it the *Old Testament*.

The other important thing I prayed about was the change of *life* and *worldview*. Did I really know what I was asking for? Not really. I only understand this prayer request many years later. This is what we call prayer of salvation. It is a desire for change in one's thoughts and actions. We cannot desire for change unless we have a reason for it. For my surprise, all these requests were answered in a very short time! What? Is Jesus *real*? Yes. He has just proved himself real to me. He has answered my *prayers*.

After this personal and secret prayer, I was told by my church leaders to read a book called *catechism*. It is a book with questions and answers. These questions are built on *Christian Doctrines*. They teach those who want to believe in Christ, and be baptized. They teach them about what Christianity *is* all about. I asked why I needed the book. Then I was told I need it because a pastor was coming to our region for the first time! What? Oh yeah! This is it.

The pastor was named *Paul Ruot Nyuon*. He came and baptized us towards the end of that year. This was the first prayer being answered. Then, few days later, I travelled to *Mataar* Village near our local church.

This was also about 4 miles away from *Mayom* Village. There, I met a man carrying the Bibles. I asked him what the books were, and he told me they were the complete bibles! It was actually about a copy remaining. What? You mean the *Old Testament*? The man said yes. I enquired how much each costs. He said “six dinars” (the bank notes reads, 600 Dinars). This was the time of Dinar, not our South Sudanese Pounds—SSP.

I had the exact amount with me at that time. No argument! I gave him his money. He gave me my Bible. I then became a friend of the book. I read the book every day. People, especially my age-mates called me, “*The Brother of Jesus!*” Wow! I just loved the *teasing* name. It was true. Jesus came into my life as he promised in Revelation 3:20. That was how I met Jesus. I met him in the Bible. I have read about him. I have read about how he was born, and how he lived on earth. I just admired his love and character.

However, is this all? No. It was not all. Jesus proved to be real to me because I can speak to him and he answers my questions. Amazing experience, isn't it? Would you love to experience the same? I cannot guarantee it for you. Your faith in him is the guarantee. However, it was amazing. What is amazing about Jesus

is that, when I was praying for all these things, I did not even *believe* in the fact that he will answer my prayers!

For sure, I was testing God. I was saying, “If you are indeed God, would you make it possible for me to receive water baptism this year?” I said, “If you are indeed God, as I have read about your miracles in this book, can you be able to change my life?” Oh, Yes! He did! He does this to me every day. Jesus teaches me about life in every way.

He uses my own mind to *inform* me about positive things. In short, I do not just *believe* the Bible. I do not just *believe* in Jesus Christ. I have experienced Jesus in my life here on earth. One thing that made me confirm Jesus is a *real* and living being is asking him to do things if he can, and that is what he did. He proved himself to me that he is not just a thought.

He proved himself to me that he is *alive*! He proved himself to me that he can answer prayers even if we do not believe he can. Try to challenge him as I did and see the results yourself. Before I became a believer in Jesus Christ, one woman said things about me. These are becoming *very* now in my daily life. One of the things she said was that, “I will minister to the whole world!” She said “I will serve the Living God for the rest of my life”.

She said “I will travel to many other nations and minister to people there, all for the glory of Jesus.” You know what? This woman was known to have lost her *mind* by the community, where she lived. This was true. She later told me the story of what happened to her. *Nyapieth Rik* told me that she ran mad when she was in Madeni, in the Northern Sudan—now Sudan.

However, the other crazy thing about her prophecies about me is that, they are taking place! I now live many miles away from where she spoke these words many years ago. I do write books that are helping thousands of readers across the globe. I am

preaching and teaching the Word of God, and people are being blessed through me. Not all of these could ever come to reality if these were just human predictions. I do *believe* now that Jesus is my real friend. I know he is my Lord and King, in the sense that he can send me wherever he wants to send me.

When I look to Jesus, I see how important I am to God. I know I am not just here. I know someone is there for me. I know you are also the same as me. It does not matter whether you believe this fact or not. It is true that you were created for a reason. This is something positive about you than believing the *lie* that you are here for nothing. A *true* hope that Jesus gives is not the hope of the world. This is because it is based on the reality of our existence. It is true that life is full of troubles and pain, suffering and all types of disasters. There are even both natural and fabricated disasters. However, all is for a reason.

No one can tell us that reason apart from the Bible. It is only this discovery of the world and yourself that will give you the meaning for life. Many have concluded that there is no reason for life! Who say this? How do you know that there is no reason for life? The situation you are in cannot tell you the fact that there is no good reason to live. All things happen as we know, but for a purpose.

Do I need to know all the details of this purpose in order for it to be *real*? This is not just possible. We do not need to know all the reasons behind our sicknesses. However, we have to know the fact that they happen, and they happen for a reason. Jesus provides this worldview. This is the view that nothing lives or exists for no reason. I am here to tell you that it is important to know who and what you are.

I am here to do my duty to tell you that you are *important*. It is your duty and role to *accept* the truth about who you are according

to Jesus. Based on this view, I can do all I can. I live by knowing the *fact* that, one day the time will come for me to leave the physical world. Where will I be? I will be where God wants me to be. Not because of what I did for it, but because of what he did for me. To me, Jesus is real. I know that I am made of both material and immaterial things—hardware and software. I *accept* that I live for a reason. Those who died are not less important than I do. Yet, I am here for a reason. I am here to learn and write. I am here to edit, publish and market my writings. I am here to teach others to do the things I am doing.

I am here for a reason. I am here to preach the truth of Jesus Christ to others. I am here to live for Jesus. I am not here to be religious please! I hate *religion*. It is dividing people. It has been killing thousands of lives in human history. It is, and it will be what it is. However, religion is what we put into our minds. It is what we *perceive* to be true about our world and ourselves. It is not religion that kills as such!

It is our human nature. The Bible calls this nature, *sin*. It is sin and evil that is killing us daily. Sin causes all wars in human societies. Sin will lead to the destruction of this living planet earth. I am not contradicting myself in whatsoever! Jesus is not a religious founder as many think he is. Even many Christians believe the lie that Jesus is the founder of our Christian *religion*.

To find this truth out by yourself, just read about the life of Jesus Christ in the four *Gospels*. You will be surprised that Jesus was, is and will never be what many of us perceived him to be. I will surprise you more in the following point below—Jesus and you! If you think I am trying to convert you to my Christian faith, then you are wrong. It is all up to you to *accept* Jesus or not. That is why our faith is intellectual and logical.

It is reasonable. You cannot be forced to believe in Jesus. Jesus himself never forced anyone to believe in him. I am simply trying to answer your potential questions about me. This is what I am. This is what I *accept* to be true about myself. I accept the fact that I am very important. I accept my roles in different levels. I accept the fact that I am here to help you and many others love and value themselves. However, where did I get all this knowledge? I got it all from the Creator—Jesus!

JESUS AND YOU

Did you know Jesus is for all people? This may be your surprise. You do not need to be religious in order to *accept* Jesus and his way of life. You can be Muslim, and accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior. What? Yes. This is the surprise of the day about who Jesus is. Did you know that Jesus is not a Christian? Did you know that Jesus is for all people on earth? You can be an atheist, yet *accept* Jesus and his ways of life. If you can accept science, which simply means *knowledge*, why not Jesus who claimed to know all things about life? Find out who he is and confirm his claims yourself.

All people on earth need to know the meaning of life. No one will explain this to us except Jesus who created life. If you want to know more about Samsung products, no one else to ask and expect the right answers from such a person, except the Samsung Company officials, who have been in that field for a long time. This is the same with life. We need to ask the Creator so that we know why we live. All people, being theists or atheists are dying to know the meaning of life. I know this from myself. Concluding that life is meaningless as the book of Ecclesiastes seems to teach is *ignorance*.

It is only Jesus that will help you understand yourself and your roles on earth. He will make you understand and practice your

roles in all levels of your life. He will help you create your self-esteem in the right way. He teaches about being humble in order to be respected. If you can only take time to read about Jesus, you will love his principles. He has principles about life that are unique! What he did, confirmed what he said about himself. He said he was life and the resurrection.

He then confirmed this by raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11). He also confirmed this by raising himself from the dead! The Gospels & Letters confirm this. If you do not accept that Jesus *existed*, accept his teachings. He himself told those who did not want to believe in him that he was the Son of God, to just believe in what he was doing in their midst.

I am talking this same thing about here. What makes us not to accept things is that we want to prove them real. What we mean by '*real*' is what we can see, touch, hear, smell or taste. Can we hear all things in order for those things to be *real*? Can we smell all things in order for those things to exist? Can we touch all things with our physical hands in order for them to be labeled as real? Can we prove everything by our five senses?

Water is defined to be tasteless, odorless, and colorless, yet it exists, isn't it? Once again, no one will ever force you to *accept* the truth about Jesus in your life. Each one of us has a choice to make. This book is not even trying to make you religious. I am not religious myself. I accept the facts about me. I accept the truth that I need both spiritual and physical foods, just because of who I am. I was made of both material and immaterial parts. I have experienced Jesus and his teachings. I have confirmed them to be real to me. I have lived and spoke the realities of life. I live according to this knowledge of who I am. I also wish you know these facts.

This is the heart of this book! Know yourself as God knows you. You can use a different phrase that suits your *worldview* and understanding. You can say something like, “Know yourself as the nature knows you”. It does not matter! However, there is a God. He made the world that we live in. Ignoring this fact is called *ignorance*.

The truth that I am after is that, you are valuable! You can learn this fact about you without Jesus, right? However, you will only *accept* and live by this fact if you know and accept what Jesus said about you. This is not preaching. It is not a suggestion. It is real life experience. I have known this personally for years. I have lived the words Jesus spoke. I accept them to be true about life, about me and about the whole universe. They are the guide and the lamp into my feet. His words are light into my long path and journey in this life.

This helps me think the way I do. It helps me know that since I was created for a reason, I am who I am. I have my own weaknesses and strengths. However, this is who I am. I have to keep improving in whatever I do. I can write, edit, publish and market my own works online. This Jesus idea helps me think positively, about other people on earth.

I know that all people are important. John, you mean even the Muslims are good people? Yes. God creates them. They are just evil as you and I may be. However, God knows them by names. He created them and he values them. If they can only be willing to change their *beliefs* about themselves, they can be as good as our minds can never imagine.

Who gave me this view of the world? Jesus did. He did this indirectly. He did this throughout his earthly life and in his words. His ministry was for all people. He loved the unloved folks of the

community. He went to see people who were in need! This led to the people following him wherever he was going.

It also created hatred between him and those religious groups. He was a threat for them, because he was practicing what he said. He was not like them in all ways. His words are truth. He taught with authority. Jesus and he alone, can help you understand yourself. He can help you understand your roles. He can help you practice your new way of life.

This is not to convince you to accept Jesus, since you have the keys to your own life right now. However, you will never *regret* if you can give him the keys right away. He will teach you about life and its real meaning. Did you know that not all our human ways can define life? Some say life is time. Some say life is memory. Others say life is creativity! Some say life is money, because money is everything! In addition, the list continues. The fact is that, life cannot be as what it *really* is, until we know what it is from the Maker.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

- Did you know that Jesus is for all people on earth regardless of their religion?
- Did you know Jesus is not a Christian?
- Did you know there is a big difference between *Christianity* as a religion and *faith*?
- Did you know you need Jesus in order to know the real you?
- Did you know that Jesus is not the founder of Christianity as religion?
- Do you know that you do not need to be a Christian to *accept* Jesus into your life?

Revision – Jesus is for all people on earth. These people can be theists or atheists. They can be even *agnostics* in their view of life. Yet, Jesus is for all of them. They do not need to believe or accept this fact in order for it to be realistic. However, they need to know this fact, in order for them to live their full lives as they should. Jesus is not a Christian. He was a Jew. He spoke like a Jew.

He wore his garments like a Jew. He ate their Jewish foods. He kept the Sabbath and other Jewish holidays. He fulfilled the Jewish laws and the prophecies of the Old Testament. Jesus does not agree with everything Christians believe and do. He is who he is. He loves and values you. He created you for a purpose. He is the one who can teach you about you, life and everything else. He knows all things.

He can also teach you all things. He can give you the understanding of life that none can ever give you! He can change your life and the world around you. He did this to me. He did it to many great men and women in the human history. He can do the same thing to anyone, regardless of age, race, or whatever differences we can think of. If you admire the creatively I have shown to the world, then you should admire and love Jesus.

I count all this to him. He can transform your life as he did to mine. It is this kind of Jesus *concept* that helps me do all I do, and make me succeed in doing them. I do not mean people buy my books because of Jesus! I simply know and say that all I am today is because of Jesus. When I edit my books, I do it all with Jesus in my brain! I believe he can give me wisdom to create a wonderful book cover image, using a simple tool such as *Microsoft Paint*. Because he helps me think positively, I can manage to do things I could not be able to do before. He can do the same things in you!

LIVING FOR JESUS!

Now, what does it mean to live for Jesus? It means thinking like him. It means putting into practice what we think about ourselves. This is the reason this book was written. It was written to help you and me think as we should. We have to act what we think. This is not an imagination. It is real! We live what we believe about ourselves and about the world around us. We are told that all fresh and new grass and new tree leaves are mostly naturally appearing to be green! We accept this. As the result, we see the color of green grass as *green*.

However, are green grasses green in color? I do not know if they are green. However, I believe they are. I *accept* this to be true, so I see it with my physical eyes. This is more of a philosophy, isn't it? We were told there are black and white people. We *accept* this to be true! However, are there black and white people? Not really. However, many people believe there are black and white people anyway.

Living for Jesus is all about knowing the *facts* about who we are as God knows us. What if I do not believe there is a God or gods? No problem. Your belief or not believing does not make these realities to disappear from being what they are. Whether we *accept* there is a God or not, it does not change or alter the fact that he does exist. This is just what we think about him. You can live for Jesus even if you do not *accept* Christianity as your religion. I can live for Jesus even if I do not go to church! Salvation is not found in the church *building*. The Gospel is what saves us. How does the Gospel save people?

It saves people by renewing their minds, which renews their actions and the entire life (Romans 12:1-2). The Gospel makes us define who we are as God defines us. We do not need to be

Christians in order to accept the good news. This good news is all about the facts we have already discussed in this book.

These are facts about you, and about the world around you. These are facts about life and everything in it. Our view of the world is important. It is what we are. The Gospel gives us the right view of ourselves as individual persons. In order to live for Jesus, there are few things we need to know. We need to know who Jesus is to us individually.

I have narrated my story of how I met Jesus. Did you see this? After we have known Jesus personally, we can then learn how to live for him. Living for Jesus is a daily, weekly, monthly and yearly life! We live it; we do not learn it by hearing about it. It is part of our lives here on earth. Living for Jesus is all my life is about. It is what defines life for me and gives it a *real* meaning. I desire to live for Jesus.

This is because I get the life he promised to give to those who follow him (John 10:10). I live in peace, which this world could not provide. Is that an illusion? It sounds that way, yeah! However, it is not an illusion kind of thinking. It is based on the *facts*. These facts are realities about life. They are realities about me. They are realities about you. They are realities about the universe where we live. They are *facts* I need to be armed for this life. This is why I live for Jesus. It has nothing to do with being *religious*. You can call me Christian. You can call me whatever name. However, all I need and want is to live for Jesus. All I ever need is to know him more!

Self-discovery – Jesus helps me discover the real me. He helps me know who I am. Not only that, he also helps me know the reason for life. He helps me understand that I am both a physical and spiritual person. He helps me know that I am here for a reason. All things that have happened to me did happen for a

pre-defined reason and purpose. I do not need to know all things and all details about that purpose. I just need to know there is a *reason* for everything happening around me. I just need to know the *fact* that I am whom I am, no matter how I may *look* like from the outside. God cares for my physical body as he does for my spiritual body. My real identity is found in Christ.

The fact that I was created for a purpose, applies to other people as well. What will be the result of knowing these positive things about me and other people? I will live by those facts. This is the result. I will know that I am important to God. I will know that others are important too. Is this not a good thing to know?

Naturally, humans are born with jealousy and hatred! We are born with such a view that everything good has to be ours! We *crave* for things that are not ours, since we were young. We were born stubborn. We think we know enough even when we do not even know what is harmful to our own selves! We cry for knives and other sharp objects when they are taken away from us!

You see who we are naturally? This is what the Bible calls ‘*Sin*’. All of us have inherited this sickness from the first human beings. I still have sin in me even after being saved by Christ Jesus! However, as I discover the real me daily, I live as I should. I still have the sin of sight. This is all about the feelings I have when seeing some other impressive things. If you are a man, you know what I mean, don’t you?

We feel like to be closer to women physically! That feeling is natural. My Christian faith could not take it away automatically. However, Jesus helps me stay focused. He helps me know that I can only have at least one person for life. He helps me love my wife and enjoy whatever a man wants to enjoy from a wife. He helps me to value my wife as I should. This is because my wife is another person Jesus loves. She is another soul he died for. She

deserves to be loved and cared for. She also needs what a woman needs from a man—love, love, and love alone, not lust!

By this *self-discovery*, I have discovered my own talents. These talents lead to career. These careers can help me serve my family, community, society, nation and even the whole world! It all began at the level of knowing the real me. The real me is what makes me accept what I am, and helps me do all I can do. By this self-discovery, I could be able to discover my weaknesses and strengths. It helps me know where to improve in life.

I know where I am heading—life after death. It helps me know that life is not all about living here on earth. It helps me know that there are different life forms. This means after this life, there is another life, which is completely different from this. I have known that my role is to learn more about who I am, from the maker of all things. Then, I will have to share this knowledge with you and others, which I can be able to reach. I will still be able to discover more facts about myself. However, these are the basic facts about me.

I am made of both physical and spiritual materials. I am here for a reason and a purpose, even if my little brain could not be able to comprehend it all. There many things I will be able to do when living on earth. It is my role to help others know who they are. It is up to them to agree with me or have a completely different view about who they are. I will be glad if people *accept* the positive things about themselves, and begin to act and live according to those facts.

Worldview Changed – God created the trees, plants, insects, fish, animals and all things on earth, all things in the sky above! Which mechanism did God used to create all things? I do not know! Do I need to know this? I do not think I need to know what mechanism God used. I just have to *accept* what he said.

Genesis 1 and 2 tells the story of how our universe was made. God may not even use our scientific words to describe how he made the universe. His science language is not like ours! Yet, we can discover the mechanisms used by God through science—future discoveries.

If we can call the processes God uses in creation as *evolution*, what is wrong with that? All I need to know is someone greater than our minds could ever imagine created or at least design and made the universe. He can use whatever process to do this. He is not limited in anything. You can call him *God* or anything you would like to call him. The names we give to the Creator are not his real names.

These are our views of Him. He called himself “I AM who I AM”. What does that even mean to us? This name suggests that we cannot even be able to name him. He is just as he is. He was as he is, and he shall remain as he is! This is not a grammatical error. This is the best description of the being that made everything, both visible and invisible. This is my view of the Creator. I desire to live in that wonderful *wonder* of who he really is to me. He has shown to me in my life that he is real. I can talk with him. He answers my prayers.

List of answered prayers

Water Baptism—this was one of the first prayers answered. There were no pastors in my area to do the water baptism. I became a believer for about three years before I could get this religious duty done to me. Water baptism is not the guarantee for our salvation. It is simply a *sign* of being one of the followers of Christ. This water baptism took place to me on 25th December, 1999 at Meer Local Church. This was in Upper Nile State, South Sudan.

Complete Bible—as narrated earlier in this book and in my other books, there was no complete Bible in my area in those days. For this reason, I prayed to get one. Imagine, I never seen a complete Bible during that time, when I prayed for it. I had no idea how it looks like. This prayer was answered as well. I got the Bible in Nuer Language. It is called *Ruac Kuɔth In Rel Rɔ* – meaning the Holy Word of God.

A Changed Life—this was one of the prayers I prayed without even understanding fully what I was praying for at that time. I think I was simply asking for God’s will to be done in my life. But not only that! I actually challenged God *if he can change my life and make it what he wants*. This is putting him in a test!

I wanted to prove God does not even exist. Alternatively, if he does exist maybe he does not hear and answer prayers of people like me. I was asking, “If you are indeed God, and if you are my own God, would you be able to change my own life and make it what you want it to be?” Oh! He changed my life, and he is changing it every day! This is the prayer of salvation.

A Changed Location—Like Abraham, I asked God to take me to a different place. I said like Abraham, not because Abraham asked God to do this to him, but because I just did not know where I was asking God to take me.

Abraham did not ask God to take him somewhere else. God told Abraham to leave his own people and land. This prayer was answered the same year. This was in July, 2000. The location to be taken to was *Ngok Land*. The people there were different, and they speak a different language than my maternal uncles in *Nassir* area.

Thereafter, there have been many other prayers answered.

List of dreams that happened

There were visions and dreams that I thought were just simple and normal nightmares. However, the miracle is that they took place, in either the following day or days later. Some of these dreams are still taking place even now! Some of these dreams did not take place yet.

First Antenov Bombing—this was my first time in my life to see a plane bombing people from up. However, the dream was exact as it was shown to me. I was in *Mataar* when this dream took place. I was at my Uncle *Ding Nyaw's* home. Yet, in that dream, I found myself in *Kiech Kuon*, about 30 miles away from where I was physically. I was not in *Kiech* physically, but my maternal uncle was there, and this is where the plane came from the east and it dropped six bombs. These bombs fell in their exact positions in the dream, just as they did the following day! To be exact, one bomb landed near Deng Bum's house. Another bomb landed on a bull! It scattered the bull all over. The jaw bone of the bull was then taken by the same bomb and it fell on that road to *Piorjak Village*. One bomb landed in the center of *Kiech Kuon Village*, and that was where I was in the dream.

It cut down some branches of a *Lalob Tree* and in the dream; I was just lying down near that tree! For sure, my maternal uncle named *Biel Deng* was lying down near that *Lalob Tree* when the bombing took place. This means I was representing him in the dream. This happened during the dry season of 1998. I could not remember the exact date, since I thought these were just normal dreams that I used to have.

The Snakebite—this was in August, 2000. The dream took place in real life just as it happened at night. There was a little hut for cows that someone built in *Thiäncör Village*. The roof for this hut was made of grass. The roof was made from the ground, and it has to be lifted up to the top of the wall.

During the time we were lifting the roof, I stepped on the Viper! It bit the exact toe that is second to my big toe on my left leg! I then killed the snake, since I left others to lift up the roof. This story was also narrated in my other books. This happened the following day in the afternoon hours, just as it happened in the dream!

New Places—I was shown new places and events that took place right there! One place was *Gelkeöu* in *Wunbut* area in *Abwong Payam* of *Baliet* County. Since I was born in the Nuer area, I had no idea how the Dinka places looked like. However, in a dream, I saw everything, including the trees and the river, just as the way they are! I was surprise when I went to that place in the same year. This was around November, 2000.

Again, I dreamt of *Magang* Village, also known as *Malual Ding*. This was before I went there in 2001. I also had a vision of *Lankien* Village in Jonglei State. This was in 2002 before I could come there myself. All the activities there, including how I went there was shown to me. I could not understand until the actual thing took place in 2003. I was also shown *Goli* in a dream back in 2006!

This was the same thing with *Loki* in Kenya in 2005. I have visited these places and I have confirmed what I saw in a dream to be exactly what it was. Even the farm I now have in *Goli* was shown to me including the trees I have planted in it now! The exact positions of the trees and their conditions were all revealed before I could even know the place!

Rainfall—it was in July, 2001 that I had a vision of rain. We were staying in the place called *Abiel*. There was a drought for a long time. The rainfall in this region starts from May to October. However, in that year, there was no enough rain for people to plant their sorghum until July. The events that led to the rainfall,

including how the clouds started to build up and the direction the rain started from was revealed.

The exact measurement was also revealed to me. The measurement was a pool nearby our home. We went there to take shower, and as I was standing in the middle of the pool, the water was exactly in the level of my umbilical cord! We confirmed this with other people in the evening of that day, as I physically stood in the pool.

Second Antenov Bombing—it was also in the year 2001 at *Abiel Village* that the plane came and drops three bombs. These bombs fell in the bush where there were no people.

The direction of the plane, and the place where we were sitting as it released the bombs were exact! The places where those bombs landed were also exact. Gabriel Mabil began to believe there was something especial in me! It was because when the dream comes to me, I tell people about it. It always happens some minutes or just hours away from the time I tell the dream.

The sinking Boat—a boat from Renk to Melut, sunk in 2008, killing several SPLA soldiers. This was revealed to me in a dream. I thought it was just a nightmare. I wept in the dream, and I then woke up and found myself crying. I was standing outside the river when the boat came and just began to sink as I watched. I did not see the boat as this happen in the real world, but I was informed about it a day later. I was in *Abwong Town* when this incident happened.

The War—since 2004, I have been dreaming and seeing the real war in South Sudan. In the dream, I find myself commanding soldiers to fight. The main combatants are always my people of the South Sudan, mainly Nuer and Dinka people. This for sure took place since 2006. During the disarmament carried out in Jonglei State in 2006 by the SPLA, many people I knew by name

died. The actual events were also revealed to me. I confirmed this from those who survived the attack of the Lou Nuer armed youth of which they were trying to disarm.

This is also confirmed by my cassettes recorded in both English and Dinka, back in April, 2004. In that radio cassette, I talked of the death of our late leader, Dr. John Garang de Mabior. This cassette was then taken from me by the local Abushok SPLA battalion, up to today! I did not say how Garang will die, but I made statements about his death after signing the peace. I did not even know why I was saying those things. I was only trying to make a point, regarding his mission as service for South Sudan. I even called him, Moses of South Sudan! These dreams about the South Sudanese civil war also influenced my talk and all the messages recorded and played for years by Feba Radio.

These messages are also used by Across Radio Program even now in Yei, South Sudan. If you listen to them, you will have no doubt that they are real predictions of the coming war. Many of us in South Sudan knew we were likely to have our own new war, even before it happened. This means nothing especial here about these claims.

Yet, it seems the dreams were influencing and giving more assurance to what is going to happen in South Sudan. There are many other dreams that my mind could not recall. Could all these dreams be what my mind predicted? Why did most of them happen as seen in the dream, if I was only imagining? Some of these dreams could not come to my imagination since most of them are deadly and against my philosophy. Yet, they happened!

This makes me believe that I am made of two things—hardware and software. We call these part physical and spiritual parts or bodies. For this reason, I need spiritual food to grow spiritually—

the Bible. I also need the physical food to grow and stay healthy physically.

This is the reason why I need to share these truths with you. You are in full control of your own mind and thoughts. This is just what I know by experience. I am here to share it with whoever is willing to read about it. It has nothing made up in it. It is just as real as I am real.

This is the driving force in my writing career. I know I have something to share. It is my duty to live for Jesus. This is because he alone knows me better. He has a plan for my life here on earth. He has given me some talents that I must use while I am alive. My heart's desire is to know myself better, as God knows me. Doing this will help me discover myself and it will help me live according to that discovery. Living for Jesus means everything we do must go as he plans. We have no choice but to desire this in our hearts every day! I desire to know Jesus more and more. This is because knowing Jesus will make me know his will for me on earth. It is his will that drives me forward in everything I do.

This is not a dreaming. I do not wish Jesus to be in my life. He is already there! What I need is guidance. He knows better than I do. He knows my future. He knows what tomorrow holds for me. As I plan, I know that whatever works, will work because he wants it to work that way. This sounds like being in bondage, right? It is actually about being in freedom!

This is all about knowing ourselves, as the creator knows us. It is about submission to the will of the Creator. His will is the best for each one of us, simply because he has a plan for us. Discovering that plan is my daily bread! I want to know more about who I am, according to my maker. I want to know what he wants me to do in this world before I die. I have discovered that

I have roles and duties that I must finish before I disappear for home. Some of these duties include writing. I write about my experience with machines and how I use them. I love sharing my experience with everyone, simply because I will not be here forever!

Since I am made of two parts, I share my experience in both areas—physical and spiritual. I share my life stories with you. Some of my stories involve some kind of supernatural intervention! This also is my testimony of the spiritual things. I do not see them as simple chances! I see them as divinely designed events, which will teach me about the existence of God.

To read more about these events in my life, check out the Personal Journalism Series. So, living for Jesus means learning about whom I am, and helping others learn about who they are. I can do this in different ways. I can do this in writing. I can talk or preach about it. I can teach people in classrooms, and I can do the same in many available ways.

What you need to remember after all, is that there is a reason for living. My life story testifies to me that there is a God. The dreams, prayers, which have been answered could not all happen by chance. There must be someone in charge of all the events in my life. This is a testimony even to me. Other people may claim or say things such as God spoke to them with an *audible* voice.

I believe this can happen if God wants, but it never happened to me that way. God speaks to me through his word, the Bible. He speaks through my normal way of thinking. What makes the difference between his voice, mine and that of the devil is that, his voice is always contradicting my own!

SUMMARY

In summary, we can conclude that we are made with two parts—*software* and *hardware*. After discovering our contents, we can also discover our roles. We have roles that are career oriented, and I call these roles, career or personal roles. These are things that you can be able to do, not because of a pressure, but simply because you love doing them. After discovering our roles, we can also *accept* them before we put them into practice. This means we have three different levels in this self-discovery journey. We have to be informed ‘*head knowledge*’, either by the environment, culture or education. Then, we have to accept or take to heart the information we have received, and this is called ‘*heart knowledge*’. If you take to heart my ideas, means accepting them to be truthful and useful. We do not need to accept everything we see or hear. We learn through our five senses.

After taking in the information we have, we have to make use of it, and this is called ‘*hands knowledge*’. This means putting into practice what we have learned. After this, we have seen how our minds can be transformed—Romans 12:2. This means we can change our thinking. If you think or used to think you are not able to do certain things by nature, you can be able to change that mindset. The best way to change our thinking from negative to positive is a supernatural work!

It all happens when we have encountered with a personal named Jesus. Well, this is my own experience. What inspired you may be something else. At least for me, Jesus is the *revelation* in my life, which changed everything. As said in this book and in my other life storybooks, Jesus helps me think positively about myself. He helps me understand myself much better.

He helps me understand my physical and spiritual bodies. How does Jesus do this? He does this by transforming the way I think

and reason. He transformed the way I see myself. I used to see myself just as a normal human being. However, Jesus said, no. You are special! You can do this and that with ease and leisure! Knowing who I am as God/Jesus knows me makes me value myself. This gives me the positive thinking about myself and a positive self-esteem that no one else can give me.

It also gives me a positive view of other people around me. I value others simply because they are also special! You are special! You are not like me or any other person on earth. This is a *fact*, and there is nothing religious in it. You just need to discover the facts about who you are. These facts can be discovered in a right and best way, when we know who we are as God knows us.

Then, I have shared with you some few things that took place in my life. These include dreams and prayers that have been answered. All these things prove to me that indeed, there is God. Not only that there is God, but also that this God is mine! He is my father in the sense that he cares more than a father can do to his own children. How do I know all these claims are real? Check out my life stories known as Personal Journalism series for more information. Once again, this book is a self-discovery guide! It is not a religious handbook. It was written to narrate how my self-discovery took place. It is meant to help you know the real you. It was written to help you discover the real you, both physically and spiritually.

It is to help you discover your roles in different levels. It is your roles to go deep and explore more about your talents, gifts and roles. It is also 100% your role to take the knowledge this book presents to you or leave it there on its pages. I have done my best to share what I have discovered about my world and myself.

It is up to the reader to take this as an advice for the right living. It is your role as a reader to explore more and experience the new

life this item promises. This book is based on realities. It is designed to flow logically to help you get the concepts logically. It starts with self-discovery, followed by the role and talents discovery, accepting your talents and roles, practicing your talents and roles, and then it ends with how my life was changed and how yours can change too!

This book believes that we must have the right view of ourselves before we could discover our talents, gifts and abilities. It also helps us identify and fix our weaknesses. Here is the tool. Use it or lose it! I have done my part. This book is also for me. I will read it to see who *I am*, and what I am doing. It is my own guide to help me discover the real me as the Creator knows me.

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