



**ABUNDANT LIFE GOSPEL CHURCH**  
69, IJU ROAD, AGEGE, LAGOS  
**SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY**  
**JANUARY 2019**

**TOPIC:** FIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF A DEPENDABLE  
CHURCH LEADER AND WORKER

**STUDY III:** AVAILABILITY

**TEXTS:** PROVERBS 27:10, PSALMS 46:1

**INTRODUCTION:**

In our first two studies on this topic, we have examined **Faithfulness** and **Ability** as characteristics of any church leader or worker who can be depended upon.

Today, we shall be looking at AVAILABILITY as another characteristics. Let us assume that you have two people working in your office. One is very smart and intelligent but often misses work or comes late and gives flimsy excuses for his/her absence/lateness while the other though not very smart and intelligent, he is always punctual and available. If you have to sack one and retain the other, who will you sack? Who will you retain and why?

**WHAT IS AVAILABILITY?**

Availability is the quality of being on ground when needed.

**SOME BIBLICAL TRUTHS ABOUT AVAILABILITY:**

- ❖ God is always punctual. The Bible describes Him as a **present** (not an **absent**) help in trouble - Psalms 46:1. This simply means that He is always available whenever He is needed. As His children, we must take after our Father in the area of punctuality and make ourselves available wherever and whenever we are needed.
- ❖ The purpose of God for man often has to do with place and time, and whoever is not available cannot feature in His divine programme for that time.
- ❖ The baptism of the Holy Ghost was to take place at the upper room (Luke 24:49, Acts 2:1-4), and whoever had not been there would have automatically missed out of the impartation irrespective of his abilities.
- ❖ In Luke 14:16-24, a man organized a great feast for some dignitaries. None of them was available on the day of the feast. So, the organizer denounced them

and filled their place with mere men who were available. Unavailability leads to replacement.

- ❖ An available church leader or worker with little ability is far better than an unavailable one with great abilities - Ecclesiastes 9:4b.
  - ❖ Not being available when needed will deprive you of the opportunity to grow - Heb. 5:14.
  - ❖ Being available for use is a major way of honoring God - Malachi 1:6
  - ❖ Absenteeism is a sign of pride and disrespect to God.
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- ❖ Not being available when needed was what brought Queen Vashti down - Esther 1:10-22
  - ❖ Don't bother about your inabilities but make yourself available to God and He will fix your weaknesses. Ordinary people who make themselves available to God often become mighty instruments in His hands - Isaiah 41:13-16.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

Imagine a worm (a very soft organism that can be killed with bare foot) becoming a threshing instrument (Isaiah 41:13-16)! You can never estimate the future and worth of an available vessel in the hands of the Almighty God. This is because a weapon is often as strong as the person holding it.