



Accelerate

Dr Cecil Stewart OBE

Accelerate

We all have seasons in our lives when progress is slow. We work and do our best but still we seem to move at a snail pace.

I remember when Evelyn and I first started to develop nursing homes. It was slow and difficult to get people to believe in this new vision which had not been done before in Northern Ireland.

Banks and building societies were reluctant to help fund it. For the first few years we were only able to care for a small number of people.

When the community could see that it was not only an excellent service, but a necessary one, we went from caring for around 20 people to almost 2,000 over the next 25 years. This meant we were able to provide employment for around 1,900 people.



See **Luke 19 v 5**. Jesus said to Zacchaeus 'Make haste and come down'. He was a **spectator** but soon became a **participator** as Jesus came to his house.



*The ploughman shall
overtake the reaper.*

Amos 9 v 13



Isaiah 60 v 22 'A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation: I the Lord will hasten it in his time'.

When we began to hold conferences and missions, we were only speaking to small crowds of around 100 people and sometimes less than that, for many years.

Then, later it went from **hundreds to thousands** and then eventually, speaking in stadiums and fields full of people with an amazing response.

Through television and radio, God has enabled us to reach out to millions. His word always works and brings forth a great harvest.

Preparation is very important and acceleration will come if we are well prepared.

When we exercise faith for acceleration, the anointing of the Holy Spirit is **released upon us** and we are able to achieve more in 1 month than we could in 1 year.

A good example of this is what happened when we were developing the nursing homes. We were given the opportunity to build 6 brand new nursing homes in 6 months.

We committed to meet the deadline and our builders were on all sites. A short time later the funding source changed their mind and withdrew support.

But, by the **grace of God** we were able to find another funding source to complete all the nursing homes on time and patients moved in as planned.

One of the keys was that we had planning permission on the sites before we ever knew that this opportunity was coming.



Accelerate

Accelerate, based on **1 Corinthians 16 v 13**, means to watch and stand fast in faith. Be brave and be strong. These words were spoken to those who had potential to rise **higher** and increase the **influence** of God's kingdom in their world.

In the dictionary, to accelerate means to increase in amount or extent, or to cause to go faster.

To me to accelerate means;
To go forward faster.
To increase speed.

You may have been praying for things to change but it seems like everything is moving too slowly. But I believe the Lord is saying to His people **'it's time to accelerate'**.

It's time to **expect answers** to prayer! It's time to prepare for many great things to happen that will transform our families, communities and country.

“ ***It's time to expect answers to prayer!*** ”



I believe we all have;

Potential to **rise** to a higher level.

Potential to **achieve** the answers to prayer that we desire.

Potential to **experience** breakthrough in our lives and reach our God-given destiny.

James 1 v 17 says 'Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights'.

If you're sick in body, He wants to accelerate your healing and health. If you're in financial struggle, He wants to accelerate financial **blessing**. If you're suffering from broken relationships, He wants to accelerate the healing.

Jeremiah 1 v 12 says 'I will hasten my word to perform it'. He wants you to go further, faster. Get ready to go to a new level. God wants to accelerate us into His plan.

But it is up to us to be ready to go forward. That is why He says in **1 Corinthians 16:13** 'Watch, stand fast in faith, be strong'.



We must be on our tiptoes of expectancy because God is waiting for us to move. He already moved when He gave His only Son on the cross to reconcile us back to Himself. See **2 Corinthians 5 v 19-20**.

Jesus dealt with all our sins, sicknesses, fears and depressions, but we must rise up and claim it through faith and praying, according to the word.

We must be determined to claim the benefits of what He has left us. **1 Timothy 6 v 12** states 'Fight the good fight of faith'.

The enemy wants us to be deprived of the blessings and the benefits God has promised.

Even though Jesus won the victory, we have to fight to claim the inheritance that is ours.

We must not be complacent.
We must not be indifferent.

We should be passionate to claim our inheritance, to claim salvation for our families and to appropriate the promises of God.

We can accelerate! We can be strong! To bring unity where there is division and love where there is strife.

If we will **rise in faith** with strong determination, we will win. When we fight the fight of faith we cannot lose! It has been said that even if you are on the right road, you will get run over if you just sit there.

“

***We can accelerate!
We can be strong!***

”

1. Persistence

In **Luke 18 v 8** Jesus tells the story of an unjust judge who did not fear God nor regard man. There was a widow woman who kept coming to the judge and pleading with him for justice.

She insisted that the judge should avenge her of her adversaries. She would not give up. She kept coming. She was passionate, determined and relentless.

Accelerate

Her persistence wore the judge down and he said 'Even though I do not fear God nor regard man yet because this widow troubles me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming, she weary me'.

We must refuse to be controlled by feelings and walk by faith, see **2 Corinthians 5 v 7**.

Jesus was saying, will not God avenge His own people who are **persistent**? He will avenge them speedily and He will accelerate their answers!

You may have been praying for certain needs in your life or in your family for years. I urge you today to let your **confidence** grow.

This is your time of favour! His answers are on their way to you! Open your heart and **get ready** for good things to happen! Winston Churchill said 'If you're going through hell, keep going'.

When you release your faith, God releases His ability!



2. The Word

In **2 Kings 7** we read about a terrible famine in Samaria. The people were surrounded by the enemy.

There was no food for them and it was a desperate situation.

There was no hope, but Elisha the man of God said '**Hear the word of the Lord**. By this time tomorrow the famine will be over. By this time tomorrow our enemy will be defeated and we will be free'.

Then a lord on whose hand the king leaned, laughed and said 'Now look, if the Lord would make windows in heaven, could such a thing be?'

2 Kings 7 v 1

He turned to the man and said 'In fact, you shall see it with your eyes, but you shall not eat of it'.

2 Kings 7 v 19

24 hours later the famine was over, the enemy had fled, and the man who had spoken words of unbelief was trampled on and killed in the rush.





***When you release your faith,
God releases His ability!***



We must stay focused on the word of the Lord to see it come to pass. See **Psalm 119 v 105** 'Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path'.

Hebrews 4 v 12 'For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword'.

John 6 v 63 'The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life'. We don't have to be controlled by our circumstances, no matter how bad things look.

You may feel like you could never get over a broken relationship. You may feel like you could never be free of depression, anxiety and fear, but **Jesus took it all!**

He took our grief and our sorrows. He has a plan for your life, to **heal** you, to **restore** you and to give you joy no matter what your circumstances. **Habakkuk 2 v 4** says 'The just shall live by faith'.

You can have a **renewed** mind. A different attitude were you can live in an atmosphere of love instead of hate and of joy instead of sadness.

3. Restoration

God will restore the years that the locust has eaten – see **Joel 2 v 25**. You may have done some very bad things in your life or made some poor choices, but that is why Jesus came.

He came to heal the broken and to restore the years that we have wasted. He came to put back together the broken pieces of our lives. He is the restorer!

4. Forgive and Finish Strong

If you have unforgiveness in your heart, make the decision you are going to forgive. When you forgive you become like a prisoner who has been loosed and set free.

See **Matthew 18** and **Matthew 6 v 12**.



Jesus said we have to **forgive** from the heart, so when we forgive those who have hurt us most, we do ourselves a big favour. We do the person concerned a big favour too.

Everyone concerned is blessed. We cannot accelerate if we are living in unforgiveness or if we condone strife and anger.

Revelation 1 v 8 says 'He is the Alpha and the Omega'. Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith. See **Hebrews 12 v 2**.

Many people start off well but they don't finish well. God wants us to be **consistent** and to realise that Jesus has given us the power to finish strong. He is going to be with us until the end and into eternity. He is our strength, our peace and our power.

2 Timothy 4 v 7 says 'I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith'. We can expect acceleration and answers to come suddenly.

When the day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord, in one place. Suddenly there came a sound from heaven like a rushing mighty wind. See **Acts 2 v 1-2**.

The spirit of God fell suddenly on the people gathered as His word had promised. Suddenly the desires of their hearts were granted and thousands came to Christ. There was an **acceleration of God's power!**

But remember, these people were preparing beforehand. They were all of one accord, in one place.

When we prepare for good things to happen, doors that wouldn't open before will suddenly open. Problems that seemed impossible will suddenly have **solutions**.

Things will accelerate when we have prepared well in advance.



Accelerate

Favour is manifested when preparation and opportunity meet. God is bringing you into a time of acceleration. Expect to have favour in your life.

Prepare every day. Get ready for the best to happen. If you're sick in body, see yourself healed. If there is strife in your home, take steps to deal with it and tell strife to get out of your home in Jesus' name.

Start to see a vision of unity and love. Pray together using your God-given authority to bind the enemy. See **Luke 10 v 19**.

If you are financially in trouble, expect to have a breakthrough as you prepare and get ready for acceleration! See **Philippians 4 v 19** and **Proverbs 11 v 24**.

You don't have to struggle on like you have done in the past. Breakthroughs are waiting to happen.

Healing and miracles are waiting to happen. Even when you are hurting, find others who are suffering and keep giving.



Jesus said we should give and it will be given unto us in an overflowing measure. See **Luke 6 v 38**.

Strife, division and offence have the potential to destroy vision and passion. We must do as it says in **Proverbs 4 v 23** 'Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life'. Don't let negativity into your heart!

Where there is envy and strife, there is confusion and every evil work. See **James 3 v 16**.

When there is unity, it creates an atmosphere for God to work! **2 Corinthians 2 v 11** states 'for we are not ignorant of his devices'.

Don't give the devil the advantage over you by speaking negative words or by receiving thoughts that trouble you.

John 14 v 1 says 'Do not let your heart be troubled'. You don't have to live with a troubled heart, it will hold you back from accelerating.

Now is the time to rise higher in faith, honour and **integrity**.



Accelerate

God does not only want to accelerate you, but He wants to elevate you! He wants to lift you to a **higher level of blessing.**

He wants to elevate you to a better quality of life, health, peace, financial position, skills and connections.

God wants to accelerate good answers for you! He wants to accelerate you into a place of power and strength. To receive specific guidance and to take hold of the blessings and benefits He has already given.

Romans 8 v 32 says 'He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?'

God is a good giver but we are not always good receivers.

Very often we are asking God to do what He has already done. He has already given everything you need.



We have to be receivers by thinking and speaking in line with His word. **2 Peter 1 v 3-4** talks about the fact that He has given us exceedingly great and precious promises, that we might become partakers of the divine nature.

Ephesians 2 v 1-22 says that we were strangers to God's promises. We were isolated from God, but through His mercy of sending His Son, Jesus, we no longer need to be disconnected.

We have been **reconciled** and brought into fellowship. We have His **life**, His power and His wisdom.

We have **everything** we need to live a victorious life, to accelerate and see God's purposes fulfilled in our lives.

“

God is a good giver but we are not always good receivers

”

Here are 5 points taken from **1 Corinthians 16 v 13** that will help you to accelerate.

1. Watch

In the dictionary to 'watch' means to look at or observe attentively, typically over a period of time. To me it means to;

Be on the **alert**.

Have **sensitivity** to the Holy Spirit.

Get to **know** what the word says.

Listen for God speaking into our spirit.

Have our **eyes open** and avoid satan's snares.

Be ready for the good things God has for us, so we can add value to others especially our own families.

See **1 Corinthians 2 v 9** and **Jeremiah 17 v 7-8**.

Sometimes people miss out because they are not expecting answers.

Get a vision for good things happening, and one sure way is for us to make good things happen for those in our world.

“ ***Losers focus on what they are going through, winners focus on what they are going to!*** ”

2. Stand Fast

This means there will be opportunities to fall short but we must stand fast on God's promises to accelerate His work in our lives.

See **Galatians 5 v 1**.

In **Joshua 1** God told Joshua 'Every place you set your foot will be yours. Be strong and very courageous'.

Joshua had to overcome many enemies before he could possess what was already his. That is why God says we are to stand fast.

The enemy will try to rob us of our inheritance, but we are to stand fast to claim what is already ours.

See **Romans 13 v 11-14**.

1 Corinthians 15 v 58 states 'Be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord'. Stand steadfast against discouragement, division and selfishness!

Be ready to forgive! Don't let satan arrest your progress, accelerate. See **2 Corinthians 2 v 11**.

3. Keep your Faith Growing

Why is faith so important? Because without it we cannot;

Be saved – **Ephesians 2 v 8**

Overcome – **1 John 5 v 4**

Please God – **Hebrews 11 v 6**

Walk – **2 Corinthians 5 v 7**

Live – **Romans 1 v 17**

Faith is part of the armour of God that enables us to overcome the enemy. **Ephesians 6 v 16** says 'Above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked'. **What is faith?** Faith perceives as real fact what is not yet revealed to the senses!

We must keep our faith strong. Our faith has the potential to grow. We start with little faith but it grows as it is **exercised**. Just like physical exercise makes your muscles grow stronger, exercising your faith will make it grow stronger also.

4. Be Brave

Be brave, step out, and don't be afraid. Be very courageous and you will advance and accelerate.

Proverbs 28 v 1 says 'The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion'.

When we face adversity, we must remember that it will only last for a season, and so we must face it with bravery in order to succeed.

See **2 Corinthians 4 v 17** and **Hebrews 13 v 6**.

When God is on our side we have nothing to fear. We do not need to fear the works of men or the devil. We can be bold! See **2 Timothy 1 v 7**.

Ephesians 3 v 12 'In whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him'. When our faith is in God He gives us boldness to reach out to be a blessing to others around us!

5. Be Strong

Be strong in faith, patience, unity and mercy. Be strong in your family, finance, evangelism and in discipleship making. Being strong in all these areas will help you to accelerate. See **Ephesians 6 v 10**.

How do you become strong?

By spending time in God's word.

Exercising your faith.

Uniting with other believers to pray with you.

Being ready to forgive.

Preparing and reaching for a greater harvest.

Walking in the love of God.

All these things help you to grow stronger and to move to a new level of productivity, because it is **harvest time!** We have a short time to accomplish what God has called us to do.

John 9 v 4 states 'I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work'.

We must make use of every moment. Every day is precious, so don't waste a moment being full of anxiety or fear.

Be **strong** and let the love of God flow through you, even when you don't feel like it, do it anyway!

I used to have a habit of worrying about everything. I imagined the worst would happen and this is exactly what the enemy wanted me to do.

But, when I saw what God's plan for my future was, I absolutely refused to worry anymore. I refused to waste precious time in anxiety, fear, self pity and regret. Instead, I spent my time meditating on the word, praising and **magnifying the Lord**.

It was then that his anointing and presence filled my life and I was able to speak good things into people's lives, which is a wonderful privilege, and this is how the hurting will be healed and we find fulfilment.



Accelerate

We must be **focused** and not meditate on the cares of this world.

See **Mark 4 v 19** 'And the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in, choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful'.

In order to gain strength in our hearts we are encouraged to wait on the Lord. **Psalms 27 v 14** says 'Wait on the Lord, be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart'.

We are to prepare ourselves for battle against the enemy and declare that we are strong!

Joel 3 v 9-10 '...Prepare for war! Wake up the mighty men... Let the weak say 'I am strong'.

We were playing a game of shooting aliens when my 6-year-old grandson shouted "don't just stand there, shoot!".

In our weakness God makes us strong. **Hebrews 11 v 34** states '...Out of weakness were made strong'.



“

***In our weakness God
makes us strong***

”

See also **2 Corinthians 12 v 9-10** 'My grace is sufficient for you, My strength is made perfect in weakness... Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong'.

With God's strength we can rise above those things that are set to bring us down to stop us from accelerating.

2 Samuel 22 v 40 'For You have armed me with strength for the battle; You have subdued under me those who rose against me'.

Be strong in character, patience and mercy. You will increase kingdom influence!

Isaiah 54 v 3 'For you shall expand to the right and to the left. Your descendants will inherit the nations, and make the desolate cities inhabited'.

The following scriptures show us how we are going to make progress.

2 Corinthians 9 v 8 'And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work'.

Psalms 92 v 12 'The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon'.

We are going to accelerate in;

Loving people and helping some everyday.
Speaking words of life to empower those in our world.

Showing a better attitude.

Sharing the gospel with lost people as the Holy Spirit leads.

Training others how to use their gifts and callings.

If we follow the steps set out in **1 Corinthians 16 v 13**, watch, stand fast in faith, be brave and be strong, then we will see acceleration in our lives, and accomplish what God has called us to do.



If you would like to receive information about CCN or **support the ministry** please contact us.

You can also visit our website www.ccnorg.com to find teachings of Dr Cecil Stewart OBE, request other free hope builders and find up-to-date information on the ministry and special events.

Other hope builders include:

It's Not Over
Give it Over and Get On
Followers Who Finish
Sights, Sounds & Seasons
Overcoming Offence
Change and Choice
Healing Environment
Overcoming Anxiety
Settling Uncertainties
Raising Your Hopes
Youth Alert: Identity and Destiny
Divine Awareness
It's Time for Answers
Turning Your Pain into Gain
Exercising Your Influence
Getting Over What Gets You Down
The Power of His Presence
Baptism of the Holy Spirit
Springs in the Valley
Winning Strategies in a Losing World
The Transforming Power of Thanksgiving

**Watch Deciding
Your Destiny on
Revelation TV
every Sunday at
10pm.**



Find us on Social Media:
Cecil Stewart or Christian
Communications Network





Christian Communications Network

468 Shore Road, Whiteabbey

Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim

Northern Ireland

BT37 0AB

Tel: +44 (0) 28 9077 9552

Email: admin@ccnorg.com