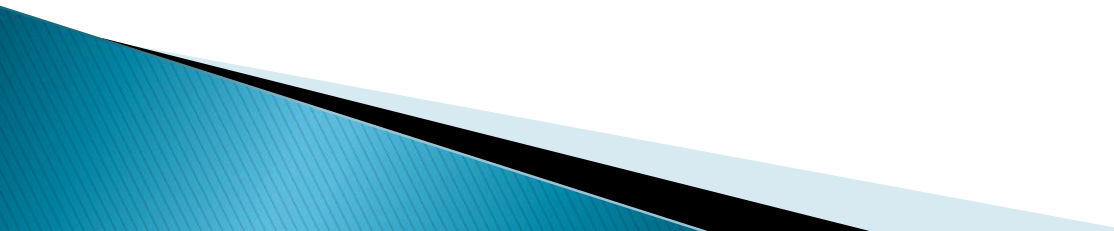


# CHANGING SOCIAL NORMS AND BEHAVIOURS THAT PROMOTE CORRUPTION

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@ANEEJ Town Hall Meeting for Leaders of Religious  
and Traditional Institution in the South West

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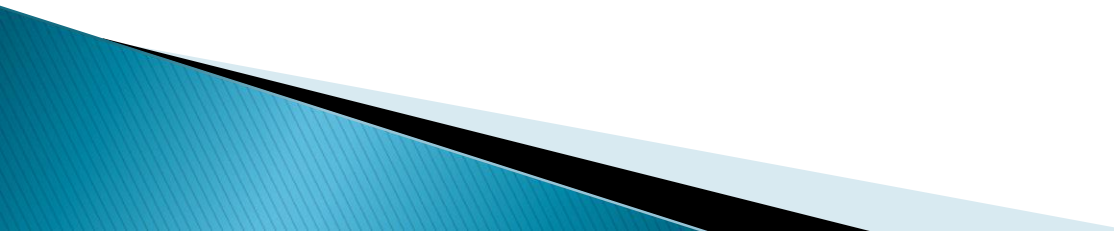
- ▶ DEFINITIONS AND IDENTIFICATION OF TERMS
  - ▶ SOCIAL NORMS & BEHAVIOURS
  - ▶ CORRUPTION
  - ▶ THE CHURCH IN NIGERIA
  - ▶ USING THE CHURCH AS VEHICLE OF CHANGE
  - ▶ CONCLUSION
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# KEY ISSUES

## ◉ SOCIAL NORMS

- Collective representations of acceptable group conduct as well as individual perception of particular group conduct
- Cultural products representing individuals' basic knowledge of what others do and think that they should do
- Every man is a product of nature and nurture

## ◉ BEHAVIOURS

- The way in which one acts or conducts oneself especially towards others
  - The way a man reacts to situations and circumstances
- 

# KEY ISSUES

## ▶ CORRUPTION

- Dishonest or fraudulent conduct by those in power, typically involving bribery
- Deviate from the original concept of a thing or an idea
- Allow something to decay or get spoilt

## ▶ THE CHURCH

- The body of Christ in the world
- A particular denomination or group of people representing the followers of Christ

# SOCIAL NORMS & BEHAVIOUR

## ○ TYPES

- Folkways
- Mores
- Taboos
- Laws


## ○ SOCIAL NORMS AND VALUES

- Values are abstract concepts that certain kinds of behaviors are good, right, ethical, moral and therefore desirable.
- Values affect expectations and expectations fuel or quell corruption

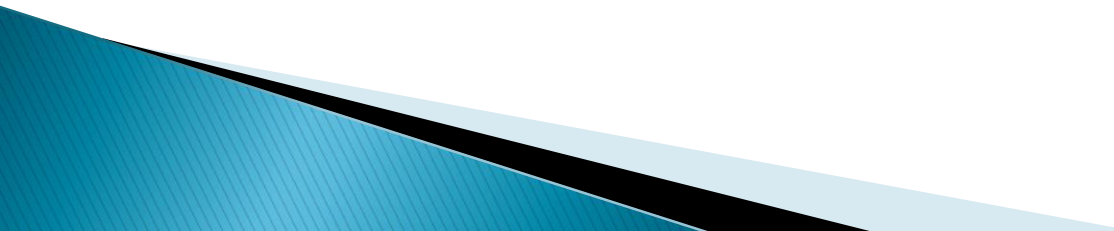
## ○ EXAMPLES OF SOCIAL NORMS

- Elders deserve respect and honour
- Men should provide for and protect their homes
- Wives should honour their husbands
- Dignity of labour
- etc

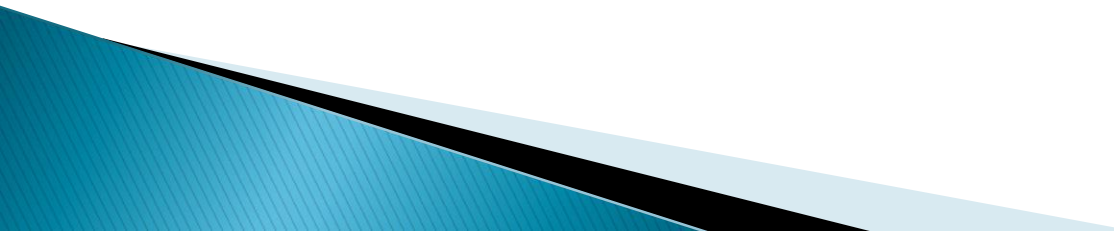
# CORRUPTION

- ▶ Corruption is the topical issue in Nigeria today
  - ▶ Financial corruption
  - ▶ Political corruption
  - ▶ Institutional corruption
  - ▶ About \$400billion allegedly lost to corruption since independence
  - ▶ Nigeria is 144<sup>th</sup> out of a scale of 180 in the Global corruption index
  - ▶ Effects are devastating and pervasive
- 

# THE CHURCH

- ◉ Nigeria is one of the most religious countries in the world
  - ◉ Nigeria boasts some of the largest church denominations in the world
  - ◉ Over 80million Nigerians are Christians
  - ◉ Churches in Nigeria command the first five largest church auditoriums in the world
  - ◉ Nigerian pastors are numbered among the richest in the world
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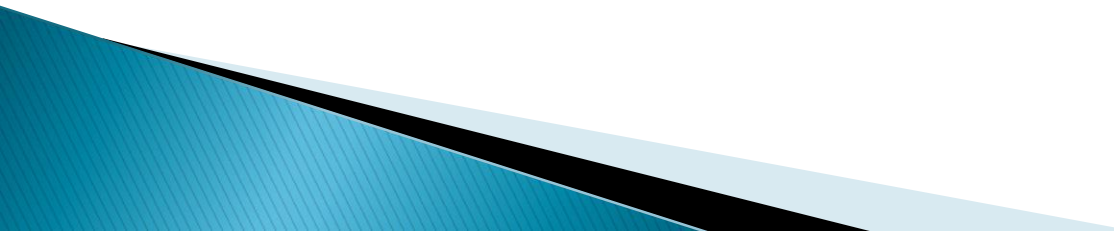
# THE CHURCH

- ▶ Should be a major voice and influence in the nation
  - ▶ Pertinent Questions
    - Are the teachings of the church affecting corruption in any way?
    - Any value to societal norms & behaviours?
    - Any checks and balances on the adherents?
    - Is the church really representing itself?
- 




# USING THE CHURCH AS A VEHICLE OF CHANGE

## ▶ DOCTRINAL CHALLENGE

- The church should go back to the basics of Christianity
  - The sermon on the Mountain is the foundation of Christian teachings
  - Christians should learn from and follow the example of Antioch believers
  - Deliberate emphasis on values that promote good social norms and behaviours
  - Redefine and repackage the Prosperity message in line with biblical teachings and modern day realities
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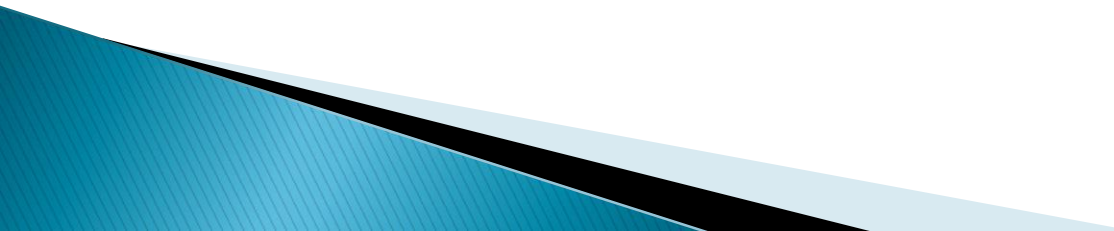
# USING THE CHURCH AS A VEHICLE OF CHANGE

## ◉ ADMINISTRATIVE CHALLENGE

- The church should deal with schism and divisions among themselves
  - The church should self regulate or submit itself to government regulation
  - Church leadership should imbibe the simplicity and humility of their Principal, Christ
  - Full time church workers should be well remunerated
  - There should be Transparency and Accountability in Church governance
  - The injunction “touch not my anointed” should be placed in its proper perspective
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# USING THE CHURCH AS A VEHICLE OF CHANGE

## ▶ THE YOUTH CHALLENGE

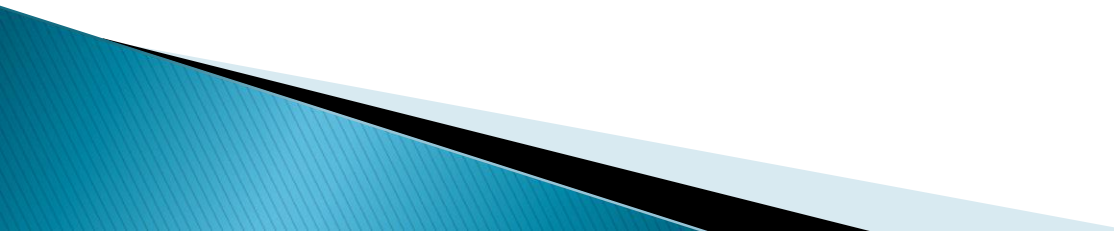
- Deliberate steps should be taken to reorientate youths towards biblical social norms
  - Emphasis on youth programs should shift from dance & drama to sound biblical teachings
  - Vocational centers can be established to inculcate the culture of Dignity of Labour
  - The church should encourage positive cultural values
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# USING THE CHURCH AS A VEHICLE OF CHANGE

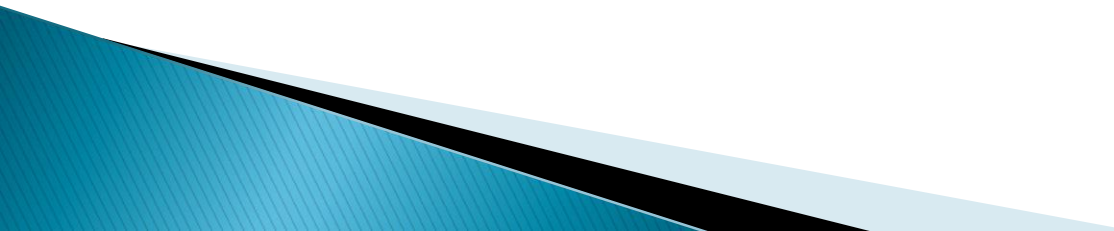
- ▶ THE ECONOMIC CHALLENGE
- ▶ The church should contribute to the National GDP through:
  - Job creation
  - Educational institutions
  - Health institutions
  - Vocational centers
  - Scholarships
  - etc

# USING THE CHURCH AS A VEHICLE OF CHANGE

## ▶ THE SOCIAL CHALLENGE

- The church should preach and insist on moderation in festivities and social events
  - Less emphasis on the way they eulogise the rich
  - Additional burden should not be placed on celebrants as prerequisites for hosting their events in the church
  - There should be corporate social responsibility by the church
- 

# CONCLUSION

- ▶ The church is a powerful instrument of mobilization
  - ▶ With close to half the nation's population, the church has a voice that can affect the direction and course of events
  - ▶ The church is in a position of influence and should be positively so.
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THANK YOU