



Sunday 19th September 2021

My dearest brothers and sisters,

Greetings to you and your families. As always, I hope you are well and in good spirits. What a wonderful week and an incredible moment for British Tennis. We extend our congratulations to Emma Raducanu who took the US open by storm on Saturday and is making headlines all around the world. There is nothing better than enjoying the success of our nation. It unifies us!

Last week many of you were enthralled about the story of the porcupine and I am reliably informed that it made you think about your personal relationships with your loved ones. This week, I want to continue with this theme. In life we face many day to day challenges and obstacles. Some of them are not of our own doing. However, how we react can be life changing. I invite you to read the following passage:

Two Neighbours

A wise and successful man bought a beautiful house with a huge orchard. But, not all were happy for him. An envious man lived in an old house next to him. He constantly tried to make his fellow neighbour's stay in the beautiful house as miserable as possible. He threw rubbish under his gate and other nasty things.

One fine day the wise man woke up in a good mood and went into the porch to notice buckets of rubbish thrown there. The man took a bucket, cleaned his porch. He carried a bucket and went to knock on his envious neighbour's door.

The envious neighbour heard a knock at his door and gleefully thought, "I finally got him!". He answered his door ready to quarrel with his successful neighbour. However, the wise man gave him a bucket of freshly picked apples saying, "The one who is rich in something, shares it with others."

I wonder if we can all relate to this? Have you been the subject to jealousy or vice versa? How do you handle it? Do you embrace and see it as a positive to do something constructive?

Life is not straightforward. We are after all human but the key to how we live a more fruitful and positive life is down to us. How do we react? What can we change?

This week I invite all of us to ascertain which character in the story we are and to step out and do what we know is right. Be wise my dear friends! If there is something to be corrected in our relationships or at work, then go forward with a renewed confidence. All will be well.

I wish you a blessed and peaceful new week ahead. May God continue to light your path in all areas of your life.

Yours,

Rev Nicholas Nwanzi