SOPHIA KINGSLEY JSS1, WORD OF FAITH SCHOOL, UYO

**IF I COULD INVENT SOMETHING NEW**

The thought of solving the numerous challenges facing the world keeps me thinking of how I can be a solution rather than a problem. However, my belief on the teachings of the Bible that ‘I can do all things through Christ that gives strength’ (Philipians 4:13) keeps my hope alive. When I came across the above topic, I said to myself wow! This must be an opportunity of a life time to participate in this global essay competition.

In my little understanding of the basic need of man; which include; food, clothing, shelter and raw materials for her industries. It is therefore clarion call on humanity to reason out the possible procedures or mechanism that will make life much better hence invention. Therefore, invention may be defined as the process of creating what has not existed before. Or it can be seen as modification on existing things to create a total new thing. However, whatever the motive of invention is, I am of the firm opinion that it should be tailored towards solving humanity numerous problems.

The technological advancement recorded so far in human history has created some of the desired results but left man with adverse ecological effects hence any invention must be tailored toward eco-friendly concept. Therefore, if could invent something new, I will focus on agro based invention with the aim feeding the rapid growing population amid the climate crises with technology that is eco-friendly through smart farming techniques, which can now prevent crop losses and post harvest losses on a large scale, reduce time wastage on harvest and manage farm resources with precision. Introduction of farming mechanism like automation will make farming an interesting venture. We can start by identify and planting high yielding seeds or seedlings with pest or disease resistant. Drones can be deployed to monitor the growth and advanced sensors can be used to detect when the crops need water or fertilizer. This device has the capacity to monitor soil quality and ensure that the crops are not affected by other environmental factors. The increased level of automation will make the farmer to have more time to attend to other issues. It will also create value chain from the farm to the market hence reducing post harvest losses which has been the bane of traditional farming system.

Another thing I will like to invent is still on agro-economy where poultry farming can be integrated with fish pond farming, in this case the poultry cage will be built above the fish pond, and the droppings from the birds can be treated and converted as feeds to the fingerlings. This will help to recycle the ecosystem and reduce the cost involved feed expenses. The automation of the system we reduce man hour wastage and efficiency in managing our resources.

In conclusion, Covid era exposed the true need of man and the earlier we start thinking on how to assist man meet his basic needs, the better for us all.