

# HOPE

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STRATEGIES TO NAVIGATE YOU  
TO YOUR DIVINE DESTINY

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AND  
FRANCIS O. OGUNLEYE, MD

# DEDICATION

To The Holy spirit.

*The testimonies in this book  
are from Emmanuel I. Chukwudi*

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# PREFACE

*“Before I shaped you in the womb,  
I knew all about you.  
Before you saw the light of day,  
I had holy plans for you:  
A prophet to the nations—  
that’s what I had in mind for you.”*

*– Jeremiah 1:5 Message Bible*

There is a natural craving in every man to live for something worthwhile, and also die for a great cause if need be. This hunger is deeply rooted in each of us. We all have a vacuum in us that only God can fill.

There is no doubt that man’s fascination for excesses are hinged upon misplaced values. We will never find the true essence of our lives by pursuing shadows. Unshaped priorities are our desperate ways of escaping from the true essence of our existence. This book outlines the ‘P’ concepts you need to unbolt your divine purpose on the earth. You are not an accident!

God is a Master planner. He already orchestrated the times of our lives. He never intends for us to experience malfunctioning in any form. It is therefore vital to understand that success is yours. God has written the story of your life with its theme filled with successful ending. You are merely living out the script written about you before the world began. Your end



was ordained and established long before now. You can only but watch it unfold before your very eyes.

There is a central need in the heart of God for us to see ourselves the way He sees us and until we look within, we wouldn't grasp our true essence. It is in the spirit of man that God deposits his purpose. But it even takes extra steps to unbolt the divine coding within. *God hid eternity in the hearts of men.* This book will help you find your Designer's intent!

*“Purpose is the cure to complexities.”*



# CHAPTER ONE

## PURPOSE

*“Your purpose in life is God’s blueprint for your life.”*

Purpose is the reason for your existence on planet earth. It is that profound need in the mind of God for creating you. God designs a need and He then creates an individual to fill it. Your divine purpose is more important than your pleasure and pain. There is a void calling for your attention from your core; that is, the depth of divine urge sitting within you.

When you find that essence for which you were created you simply exude glory for all to see. You are only fulfilled when you find your assignment. Each of us was sent from eternity

into time to fulfill a divine agenda. We must decide to live for one course.

It is your personal responsibility to unlock the divine seal within you. Desire births destiny. Quit trying to please everyone. You abort destiny when you try to impress others; life loses meaning when we are out of divine purpose.

Get inspired and rise up to fulfill your mandate, the purpose of your life existence. Inspiration is described as the process of being mentally stimulated to do or feel something, especially to do something creative. You need to realize that your existence in this world means something. Your birth is a divine plan. Your life is a testimony, thus, you have been chosen and set apart and are not meant to fit in with the crowd. You brought an answer to the world!

Don't let the system or statistics to define how far you can go in life. Heaven configured you, not by chance, but to meet a specific need. This is your moment to find your purpose and also fulfill destiny!

*“Purpose is the problem you were created to solve.”*



## CHAPTER TWO

### POTENTIAL

*“Your innate abilities are pointers to the call of God on your life.”*

As you go through life, you will realize a seed of talent growing on the inside of you. It is your responsibility to stir up those potentials and maximize them in your life time.

God has given you gifts according to your abilities, according to what you can handle. We are all gifted. Everybody has something unique. God has weighed your capacity in His release because He knows what you can handle. You shouldn't

be trying to keep up with others. God considered your weight load before he made those deposits in you. You have been built for your purpose. He also gave you the needed grace to function in your assignment.

The traits you are passionate about are pointers to the divine plan of God for you. Do not ignore the very thing that strongly draws your attention. The things that come to you naturally are God's seeds of destiny. This is not what your family and friends can choose for you. God's thoughts and ways are always different from ours. He knows what He deposited in you and how to get it out. Your gift will announce you to the world.

*“A man's gift makes a way for him; it brings him before great men.”*

– Proverbs 18:16



## CHAPTER THREE

### PERIOD

*“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.”*

-Eccl 3:1

Right at that historic moment, as the prison steward walked in and unlocked the iron bars that held him bound for years, he was to be led before the greatest power of the world. The chief baker recommended him to interpret the puzzling dream that eluded every magician in the royal cabinet, a feat that changed history and lives for generations.

Joseph remembered the God of his father and grandfathers

once again, the covenant He had with them over his generation. The whole incident played through his mind again. The hatred of his jealous brothers, the merciless beatings they gave him before he was stripped and thrown into the dry pit. The harsh weather conditions he witnessed during his coerced conveyance to Egypt. The loneliness he saw as a dreamer flashed back before him.

The removal of his prison coat for the king's choice garment and golden ring was symbolic of the prophetic resemblance of the coat of many colors once placed on him by his father. God had restored what his brothers stole from him. The long awaited dream was staring him in the face. Joseph's time finally showed up. That was God putting him through different dimensions and stages of life to prepare him for what was coming ahead of him. Joseph had an understanding of God's seasons for his life which helped him to also prepare to tap into that defining moment. He had a transitional mindset. And he was never in a hurry to be announced because he knew God would come for His own. The test and trial he faced ordered his steps.

*“The beauty of your destiny is developed in the daily steps of your lives”.*

We must realize that God will never mismanage our lives. He knows what He is doing!

*“Until the time that his word came: the word of the Lord tried him. The king sent and loosed him; even the ruler of the people, and let him go free. He made him lord of his house, and ruler of all his substance.”*

– Psalm 105:19-21



## CHAPTER FOUR

### PLANNING

*“Pictures speak volumes.”*

Planning brings order and structure to our lives. It deals with programming. Our desired destination requires a map where we create a world that we can only visualize in our imagination. Planning has nothing to do with our past; it rather has everything to do with our future. It is the performance procedure for upcoming operations. Planning creates peace and tranquility. When you set a plan for your life, you wake up every morning with hope in your heart.

God is a Master planner. He had the creation process mapped



out even before He stepped out to speak light to burst forth out of darkness. His creativity followed order; chaos is not His divine attribute. Planning creates order, beauty and excellence.

What is that divine idea in your heart? God has deposited amazing pictures in your mind. You see strange concepts in your spirit speaking of things you can accomplish. Sit up and plan. Map out a strategy to take steps towards your God given ideas. God can only show you what you can accomplish.

It was not raining when Noah built an ark. God is not confused about His great plans for us. We should therefore function with accuracy and clarity of intentions.

*“Planning cures anxiety.”*



## CHAPTER FIVE

### PLACE

*“Your assignment in life is geographical.”*

- Mike Murdock

The person that would experience the backing of God must be willing to leave the comfort zone. Divine placement is all that is required for you to function fruitfully. I think it is essential for you to find that unusual place God has designed for you to prosper effortlessly. It is your place of honor. Every purpose is place oriented. You have to be in the right atmosphere at the right time! That is the place that favor happens!

Abraham was a non-entity in his father’s house at old age. He had no honor or prestige attached to his name until he encoun-

tered God. He was instructed by God to leave his people and journey to a far country. God separated him from the familiar to connect him to the unfamiliar. He moved by faith without a road map but with strong faith in God. He found his place in destiny by total obedience to divine instruction.

Faith is your GPS to destiny. There are movements to make in your quest to attain the promise. God will uproot you from the familiar and plant you in places you never dreamt of. Destiny does not consider the familiar. In fact, the comfort zone is a risky place to be when destiny is calling. Never stay where God has already left.

Jesus didn't flourish in His own community. His ministry experienced strong opposition because the people did not receive Him. He was restricted from being a blessing to his people. His hands were tied. Paul the apostle was pulled back from entering a certain city to preach the gospel. The anointing on your life is not for everyone. You have an audience you were designed for. Don't force yourself on a strange crowd.

*“It could be that God has called you to pull up roots and move to another area.”*

- Hezekiah Walker



## CHAPTER SIX

### PROJECTION

*“You become what you see”*

The Eagle is acclaimed to be the king of all birds. This extraordinary creature exudes an uncommon swiftness. The Eagle spots its prey thousands of miles away, and takes off to catch up with it with an incredible velocity.

You must estimate the distance between your present and your future, and what is required to draw your desires. Just like the Eagle, we must capture a sharp picture of our future from the present.

Imagination is an intensive forecast into the future with un-

broken focus as to realize a targeted goal at a set time. It is the undivided attention of one's mind towards a particular dream with the intention to bring it into reality.

Meanwhile, people of great projection realize that what is ahead of them is better than whatever seems to have gone. Do not give up hope. Good things happen when you least expect.

The Bible says that if one's eye is single; his body will be full of light. This speaks of focus and sharpness of vision. You cannot speak of light except in connection with vision. People see better with the aid of light. Where there is no vision, people waste. God spoke light into existence before He went on to create. We have to see many miles into our future from now. Take a precise measurement of the journey you are embarking upon.

*“One man with a vision is like a nation.”*

- Dr. David Abioye



## CHAPTER SEVEN

### PRICE

*“Greatness has a price tag.”*

Success is hard work. It is often what you do differently from others that set you above them in life. Nobody attains glory without risking his comfort. If it costs you nothing it will definitely pay you nothing. Whenever you make a demanding sacrifice you also step up your significance before the world.

Freedom has a price tag on it. Freedom is never a free commodity. It is only in the grave yard that people don't struggle. How much are you willing to pay to realize the greatness sitting in your spirit? The price of greatness is responsibility.

The value or weight of your purpose is directly proportional to the depth of preparation you put into it. Price determines worth!

I remember when my brother was training to play the keyboard. He would wake up at midnight to practice because he had to impress dad and his coach the next day. After some time, his fingertips began to ache. He had to train with the coach for a stipulated period of time each day and my father didn't give him a break just because of the discomfort he was experiencing. But it paid off at the end.

Let go of your fear. You cannot get something new if you don't let go of what you have. At the other side of fear is faith. It's true that sometimes you will suffer some discomfort to get what you want. Pain is what makes us grow; in fact, it is what makes you a champion. Every challenge is a gateway to victory.

Don't be afraid to pay the price to be relevant in your generation.

*“Your power is in your pain.”*



## CHAPTER EIGHT

### POSITIVE

*“We are where we are because of what we believe and do. You can never act beyond what you believe and do. And you cannot believe beyond what you know.”*

- Dr Mensah Otabil

When the human mind is stimulated with an optimistic affirmation, the result is very tremendous. It is crucial for you to have a positive mindset because it is exactly what you send into the atmosphere that it releases to you. Life will not give you what you deserve but what you demand. Whatever you mail out into the future through your spirit is what it brings back to your present in a larger form. Train your spirit to birth a better version of you.



The law of positive mental attitude functions for all irrespective of color or creed. Anyone can rise up to become a success the moment he changes his thought process. The same is applicable for those that send out negative signals into their environment. They too will reap the frustrations it brings. The human mind is the creator of his future.

*“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”*

– Romans 12:2

I encourage you to modify your view of life. Grumbling will not make any difference until you are willing to adjust your thought pattern. Most people do not succeed in life because they do not take the time to define what they are going after. You have to be sure of what you want for your life, then, positively, go after, pursue and make it yours. One of the easiest ways to enhance your journey is to change the way you think and start thinking success instead of defeat. Develop an abundance mentality. Start hanging out with successful people who do not settle for less. Uncommon people don't have the time to sit around waiting for things to happen. They rather invest their time, energy and resources to make things happen.

Each day when you get out of bed you must set your mind on your goals for the day, because little drops make a mighty ocean. Start each day with a positive mind set. Write your goals. Realize you need to make every step count.

It is in the mind that we win or lose battles. Never ignore the image that captures your heart.

*“Whatever the human mind can conceive and believe,  
it can achieve.”*

–Napoleon Hill



## CHAPTER NINE

### PARTY

*“You are one friend away from your future.”*

Seasons birth relationships but covenant precedes every lasting relationship. Vision determines bonding. Passion determines partnership. Everyone cannot follow you to where God is taking you. Bearing that in mind, it becomes important that at certain points, some friends must leave so that the right ones can step into our life. God will begin to shed off certain purposeless relationships in your life as you enter your new season. Everyone may not survive where God is taking you. They were good for your past but they will not fit in into your destiny. And you must be willing to let them go. Never hold on to what God has rejected!

There is no wisdom in attaching yourself to those who do not feel the weight of your divine assignment. This may sound

tough but you must embrace the fact that some people are due to leave your life. Every person that made it through to his purpose knew the time to disconnect from certain people who shouldn't go further into the future with him. These are mostly the companions who rarely comprehend the urgency of your calling.

Abraham left his father's house to embark on a journey that would determine the fate of his generation. He knew when to separate from Lot. He instructed his servants to wait behind at the valley while he went up to the mountain with his son to offer sacrifice to the Lord. He knew he was going up to transfer the covenant he had with God to his seed.

When Lot and his wife were leaving the city of Sodom and Gomorrah, at a point, Lot left his wife behind and ran for his own life. He did not remain with her out of sympathy or for fear of what the people would say. Sentiment can terminate destiny! Beware of familiarity!

Jesus left the other disciples behind while he went up to the mountain top to pray. Moses would leave the camp of Israel behind to go up and seek a quiet place with God. You need to drop certain folks behind as you journey on the path of your destiny! Most people who began with you shouldn't go into your future with you. They are not fit for the journey ahead.

Separation can be painful but your purpose is too precious to be wasted. Everybody is not going to the same direction with you. Some are assigned to distract you from your assignment. Sometimes attraction is a distraction. Some people will even love you out of God's perfect plan for your life. Don't be afraid to be alone!

*“In life there are people you mingle with you lose your influence, essence and dimension in the spirit realm.”*

- Dr. Cindy Trimm



## CHAPTER TEN

### PATRON

*“A mentor is the bridge to your future.”*

I find enormous interest in reading the biographies of leaders. I am often fascinated at the pattern with which God positioned models around these people to set defining moments for their lives. Mentors are gifts given to you to chart your way to destiny. Their desire is to develop your innate abilities and channel you along the critical curves of life.

Everyone that realized his potentials went through the mentorship process. Mentors, like patrons, spot your inherent dreams and invest in you to actualize them. An uncommon protégé is the product of a rare mentor. Mentors pour their spirit into you. A mentor sees greatness in you even while you

are still struggling in life.

It took the leadership spirit of Moses for the trapped leader in Joshua to find expression. Mordecai was sent to raise Esther who later found favor before the king as the chosen queen. Ruth was raised by Naomi. The prophetic calling over Elisha was provoked under the tutelage of Elijah. Paul poured his apostolic anointing on Timothy. Jesus poured Himself into His disciples. Mentors know the route to your prophecy. They see where you are going in life before you even take off.

You will remain in the dark until you submit to the mentors divinely positioned to carry you into your promise. You are one person away from your dream. Find someone experienced and learn under his guidance. No one can take you where he has not been! Who you follow determines how far you will go in life.

*“When greatness is predictable logical outcome of a rational step by step well thought and coordinated battery of actions, it must stay especially when serviced by trained dedicated eagle-eyed maintenance squad.”*

– Prof. Obienu



## CHAPTER ELEVEN

### PASSION

*“I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free.”*

- Michelangelo

Passion is the fuel of the soul. We will never be fulfilled in life until we find that significant thing that truly connects with our core. Something makes one come alive even in the most seeming weak moments, and it is the power of passion.

Passion is the energy of the spirit. It is simply unfeasible to excel in anything without this driving force. Passion defines mission. Passion is the voice of freedom.



Passion is the fire of the soul. Jesus was able to fulfill His assignment in life because He was obsessed about it. Paul became a great apostle by pouring himself into a course greater than him. We are sustained by the energy within. What are you willing to die for?

Passion defines our calling. I dare you to discover something to pour your life into, for that is when you are fit to live. Hold on to your passion as the key to your dreams. Find something of your interest to invest your strength into. Passion rules our world!

*“Follow the candlelight in your heart.”*



## CHAPTER TWELVE

### PURSUIT

*“Our pursuit of excellence is going to take years to get us where we want to be. This pursuit is not a trip we will ever finish, however it’s a process of continual improvement.”*

– Harold A. McInnes.

Pursuit is the proof of conviction. It is not enough to say one has a goal if he is not ready to get up and channel all his energy towards it. The price you pay for a thing determines its value!

Walking with God requires steps of obedience because His instructions are totally unpredictable and dynamic. God leads

without details. He enjoys seeing us go through the daily process that draws us closer to His heart. This is where we truly bond with Him. He places a demand on our faith for the actualization of the divine promise.

Nothing great was accomplished until people stepped into a divine plan. Abraham stepped out into God's command without details. He was travelling to a promised destination without a roadmap.

Pursuing a bigger dream simply requires faith. Faith is the anchor of our lives. Faith has no plan 'B' or a second plan. Hope is the belief that the prophecy placed over us will find reality in our life-time. Hope sets the pace for faith to step in. The journey becomes an amazing adventure when we activate our faith!

The pursuit of hope demands focus. A single-minded person has no time for detours. Only double minded folks fall by the wayside. Your dream must be driving you towards a definite destination. Throw your whole life into a bigger vision!

*“Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”*

– Phil. 3:13-14



## CHAPTER THIRTEEN

### PRACTICE

*“Excellence is birth through daily practice.”*

Overnight success is an illusion that only exists in a fool’s imagination. Success is scraped out from the tiny fragments of every failure along the way. History shows us that thriving innovations had to endure a gradual process. It took Napoleon Hill twenty years of consistent research to come up with his legendary book, ‘Think and Grow Rich.’

But Napoleon Hill did not start as an acclaimed writer. He had written works that didn’t see the light of the day. He had suffered great emotional depression as a child. However, he still held on to his interest as an aspiring writer by sharpening his innate skills from youth, composing essays that would later

stand the test of time. It is striking to note that his prowess was born out of dedication.

Michael Jordan stated that the thousands of shots he missed during his early days were even larger part of his success in his basketball career. He found his courage from those moments. We cannot accomplish success without storms.

One has to maintain consistency in what he is called to do, seeing every failed attempt as a part of the bigger picture. Wayne H. Knox said, ‘indeed, each failure strengthens and insulates leaders from future failures.’ Stars rarely line out from the breed of the unscarred. Every act rewards itself.

Great people train hard to reach their dreams. They work under harsh terrain, developing their gifts. Talent won’t get you anywhere if you don’t work hard and do it when you don’t feel like doing it.

The hours of practice, criticism, struggles and pain are all involved. I believe the difference between those who quit and those who survive is practice. They fight for what they want. This is what drives and motivates them. Their drive is to be the best that they can be, with hard work rooted in persistence they become who they want to be. You have to realize that hard work always wins. You may not have all the talents in the world. You may not be the most educated person in the world but you must put in the hard work to enhance your gifts. In a nutshell, talent won’t get you anywhere if you don’t work.

Start focusing on your possibilities and potentials. Picture the version of yourself you want to become. The secret of success is determined by your daily agenda. You must develop discipline because successful people don’t just work hard they

work in the right direction. They realize that every step is a progressive realization of success. Every new dimension will demand a new you!

*“Do not be afraid to fail.”*



## CHAPTER FOURTEEN

### PRIORITY

*“Do the most important thing first.”*

The scripture tells us how Jesus went about doing good deeds and healing all kinds of diseases. He was so immersed in His assignment that He literally forgot about His comfort. His disciples had to confront Him on one occasion to have some meal. His food was to finish the work of His Father that sent Him. That is the lifestyle of anyone who fully grasps the urgency of the mandate over His life. Everything must revolve around your vision. Singleness of purpose at every moment is a great trait in the life of leaders. Greatness follows a pattern.

Pouring yourself into the most important things first and shunning every form of distraction is the sure path to success. Put

your preference in proper order. All your seeds must be heading towards the same direction.

This is the crucial time to wake up to the task at hand by making sure every little step of the way forms a part of the larger picture. Invest your time in things that have value for where your life is heading to. Invest in your priorities and avoid frivolities. It's alright to have time for other hobbies but your assignment must possess a greater part of your time, strength and resources. Leave nobody in doubt to where your life is heading to. Be like a sharp arrow shot out to hit a targeted goal. Stay focused on the price before you.

*“Prioritizing cures confusion.”*





## CHAPTER FIFTEEN

### PERSONALITY

*“Great men are not people with great gifts, but men with great habits.”*

Mother Theresa was an amazing person. The world still celebrates her legacy. This nun drew the attention of the world like none other. And yet it was reported that she had only rosary beads and her unique white-and-blue Sari as her only possession at death. She lived a humble life though she was born into a wealthy home. Simply put, this extraordinary lady had the heart of an angel. Her heart for the broken world stood her out. Mother Theresa, like other reputed leaders, knew that little gifting with uncommon habit makes a lot of difference.

We are called to bring hope to our broken generation. This task

demands more than mere gifts or talents. It requires integrity. A leader must have uncommon traits that draw people to his vision. A leader gives more time building his inner qualities.

A pleasing personality is the product of a positive inner attitude, acquired through intense discipline. People who attained it had to temporarily endure self-gratifications. They searched for a worthwhile calling to pour their individual passion into.

Be the change the world is crying out for. Be the light in the dark world. Bring hope to a wounded heart. Lead by example.

*“Your actions travel longer than you into generations to come.”*



## CHAPTER SIXTEEN

### PERSISTENCE

*“Persistence is stubbornness with a purpose.”*

-Rich Devos

The only difference between winners and losers is persistence. Losers stay down but winners get back up and keep moving. Don't build a prison or a wall around yourself. Just because you failed doesn't mean you should give up. Failure can be a stepping stone to your greatest breakthrough. In fact I don't trust a person who has never failed in life. Some lessons can only be learned through failure.

Persistence is the consistent insistence that holds on until it

finds expression. It is the trademark of every man and woman with an outstanding vision. Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not, neither will education do. Tenacity demands that the inner drive to succeed must be stronger than the need to quit; the will to fight deeper than the desire to step back.

Here is the short but historic speech by Prime Minister Winston Churchill on October 29, 1941 to a group of students in Britain.

*“Never, ever, ever, ever, ever, ever, ever, give in. Never give in. Never give in. Never give in.”*

Every breakthrough idea our world enjoys today traces its foundation to persistence. No wonder the scripture points out that if we fail in the day of adversity, then our strength is little. We must therefore be willing to put our lives into something huge.

Thomas Edison held on after hundreds of attempts to create the first electric lamp the world ever witnessed. Henry Ford instructed his car manufacturing crew to keep on with the experimentation for a particular automobile design until they found the answer. He didn't give up on his idea even when they told him it was impossible. A leader sees things differently.

People like Bill gates, Nelson Mandela, Warren Buffet, Steve Jobs and Mark Zuckerberg knew the power of persistence. The majority of these men were willing to suffer loneliness for the idea they conceived. A good number of them were school dropouts who poured their lives into the higher calling. They simply wouldn't give in. Persistent is the stubbornness that is stronger than death!

This is a statement by Martin Luther King:

*“The pain to gain is for a while but the victory of gain is forever. Fly, and if you can’t, run, if you can’t, walk. And if you can’t, crawl but in whatever you do, keep moving.”*

Paul was a great Apostle of faith. The scripture records his tumultuous sailing experience in company of other prisoners to Italy. We see the unwavering attitude expressed by this man of God, even in the face of harassing wind that threatened the lives of those on board. He stayed strong to give them hope in the face of death.

You have to break traditions, social norms and dig deep. Stay rooted. Stay hungry. Be diligent. Be persistent. You will find a way. You have to understand that the destiny of your generation rests on you. Get up and shake yourself. You carry Grace. And everything you need to succeed has been deposited into you.

You have the ability to succeed. Whenever you have an idea in you, realize that the longer you sit on it, the longer you disintegrate the idea. Your time is ticking. The people you associate with in this journey are very important. Walk with purposeful people, not just anybody. You have to surround yourself with people that are hungry to do great thing.

*“And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man’s life among you, but of the ship.”*

-Acts 27:22



## CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

### PREPARATION

*“The dimension of your preparation will determine the level of your performance.”*

Everyone wants to be a character in a success story but only few pay the price. Time is the principal raw material in the opus of success. It can neither be stored nor stretched. All you can do is invest it. Everyone that made it to his place of fulfillment paid a price for it.

If you meet opportunity as a prepared person, you simply sail into the life of your dreams. Anyone who gets prepared for the moments of his life walks into it victoriously. A prepared person embraces greatness even in his common moments. And challenges do not defeat him; they make him a better person.

It is your duty to make out time to sharpen the skills that connects you to your ultimate purpose. There are skills and gifts you need to awaken from within. The world makes the way for a man that knows his way forward. The spirit of excellence is accomplished through preparation. Bill Clinton said, ‘I will study and get ready, perhaps my chance will come.’

*“The fight is won or lost, far away from witness. It is won behind the lines, in the gym and out there in the road, long before I dance under those lights.” -Muhammad Ali*

No one ascends the height of recognition when he is meant to be in the training ground. God does not delight in an emergency glorification of any person. You must go through the process orchestrated to introduce you to your next level.

Everyone on earth has an assignment and a path to follow. Develop the skills you need for the preservation of your success when it eventually comes. When preparedness meets with opportunities, amazing things happen. Tony Evans said, ‘when the person is prepared for the purpose and the purpose is prepared for the person, God creates a hook-up called destiny.’

*“Unpreparedness stagnates opportunities.”*



## CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

### PROTOCOL

*“Never fight your superior.”*

King Saul in the Bible became a striking character to reveal the urgency of spiritual protocol. There were major situations where he broke the chain of command. Prophetic instructions can be very delicate to destiny. The kingdom was taken away from him for his impatience and disobedience.

David, on his part, submitted himself to serve a man who was seeking to kill him. His faithfulness to Saul attracted the attention of Jonathan. This also became a ground upon which their covenant friendship was built. It was Jonathan who risked his life for David and also gave up his royal position for him to fulfill destiny.



Absalom and Solomon had the same father. One humbled himself to learn while the other turned rebellious. Solomon (the illegitimate son) inherited the throne of David. Absalom (the legitimate son) died a shameful death. Joel Osteen said, ‘Life is not a function of who is related to you but a function of who is divinely connected to you.’

Wisdom requires that we follow through with every detail of divine instruction. Don’t ever stay around greatness without honoring it! You attract what you reverence.

Elisha followed Elijah until he was taken up. Joshua followed Moses until God took him. Timothy followed Paul until the apostle finished his assignment on earth. Ruth didn’t go ahead of Naomi to introduce herself to Boaz. Esther followed the instructions of Mordecai. Success demands protocol and order. Leaders release their mantles to submissive followers. Some followers are so gifted but rebellious. That is why they don’t go far. Rebellion kills the seed of greatness. Submission is power put under control. Humble yourself and serve someone.

*“Humility brings honor.”*



## CHAPTER NINETEEN

### PRECAUTION

*“It takes guts to dig for gold.”*

Risk is the bread of the brave. People who left positive marks on the sands of time had to take tough decisions at certain points in their lives.

Winston Churchill led England in a fiery second world war when his equals shied away from taking the duty. He became instrumental to a historical shift in his nation. He didn't let the enemy's threats stop his determination to keep his promises to his country. As a youth he said, 'someday it would be in my power to deliver Britain from their enemies.' Churchill had to

put his life on the edge for the safety of his people. His courage forced him to the enemy's camp.

*“Do not be afraid to do something new, you may not know where it is leading you.”*

– Monique

Mediocrity is a killer of greatness. Fear has the ability to stagnate your divine destiny the moment it has its filthy fingers on you. You must be very conscious because the enemy would do anything to strip you of your place in destiny.

I captured a word by Lodwick M. Cook, ‘risk and responsibility always go together. Without risk, there is no progress. Without responsibility, vision fades into a pipe dream.’

I dare you to throw caution to the wind and take the bold step into realizing that idea God planted in your spirit. The concept that would change the tide of our time could be lying dormant in you. It may be a book, a song, an invention, an institution or a movie.

Nelson Mandela made salient statements:

*“We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, and fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small doesn't serve the world... We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone. And as we let our light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our fear, our presence automatically liberates others.”*

God did not promise you a smooth sail through this journey, but, a perfect finish. You must be bold to take the leap of your life if you desire to live out the potentials in you. See life as a challenge. Be positive about every step you take. Faith never fails.

Be strong. There are battles to fight, territories to take and victories to accomplish. But we don't fold our arms and expect our aspirations to turn into a miracle all of a sudden. Sometimes you have to fight to force yourself into glory. You may be knocked down sometimes but get back up and keep on until you are ultimately on! It is dangerous not to dare!

*“It is better to die with your sword in your hand than to live begging on your knees.”*



## CHAPTER TWENTY

### PROPHET

*“The future of every generation is tied to the prophet sent to them.”*

Prophets see the heart of God. Prophets speak the mind of God. They are custodians of divine secrets. God always positions His agents in your life to guide you. God sends you a prophet so you won't make a mistake in this journey. You are never left alone in the journey of life.

*“And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper.” - II Chronicles 20:20*

When the voice of the children of Israel echoed in heaven, God sent Moses. A prophet is the bridge between heaven and earth. The voice of the prophet is the security of a generation. Those who neglect the vitality of God's oracles in their lives end up miserable. You are trapped without God's voice. Destiny is held hostage until a prophet steps in.

Prophetic blessings establish people and call them forth into divine promises. Every major shift in the lives of people is ushered in by the voice of a man sent by God.

A story is told in the Bible where the water in the land was bitter. Nobody could drink of it until a prophet altered the curse in the land. God's oracles shift atmospheres; they introduce a new order in the earth realm.

Saul was an ordinary man until the voice of Prophet Samuel rested on him. He went on to prophesy along with the company of other prophets. Saul began to operate on another dimension of gift from that moment. The Bible said that he was turned into another man. The anointing of Prophet Samuel turned David from a poor shepherd boy to a national hero. Your whole vision will remain an illusion until a man of God speaks over your life. The mantle of Elijah produced Elisha. You need a voice over your life. A prophet changes the seasons of your life.

*“When God wants to save a nation He will send a prophet.”*

– Emmanuel Etim



## CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE

### POWER

*“True leadership develops the potentials in the followers.”*

– Ron Carpenter

Broken people rule our world. Humility carries amazing aroma. No devil can crush the one that lives a broken life. Brokenness is a powerful force in the spirit.

The world has been witnessing the fall of great leaders who usurp power to the disadvantage of the people they lead. They abused the people God had assigned to their care.

The only way you become free is by setting other people around you free. That is the test of a leader. You don't have to intimidate or control others. True leaders rather build follow-

ers into greater leaders. Great leaders influence others positively.

Uncommon leaders are not selfish. They generate success through followership. True leaders connect with followers through their brokenness.

Paul Adefarasin wrote:

*“God delights in working with broken vessels. In fact, brokenness is a prerequisite to being used by God. I find that the most difficult people to be broken, are the people with no flaws in their past. Not having tasted the mercy of God to a notable degree, they are very self-righteous and unwieldy in His hand... The most potent gifts and talents, often come wrapped in flawed and twisted packages.”*

Leaders who exhibit selfishness towards the people often fall along the way. Flexibility has an amazing bond with people. Selflessness attracts people. It has a sweet scent because it carries freedom which makes others comfortable. Freedom is transmittable!

There is a story in the bible where a woman broke her Alabaster box at the feet of Jesus. The Bible said that the whole room was filled with the lovely scent that oozed out from that broken calabash. That is symbolic of the beauty you experience when you live a broken life. When you give up your selfish desires to be of service to hurting people, your own life will exude sweetness.

Brokenness ushers you into greatness. Brokenness is a spiritual state of humbleness. A person who has already fallen down fears no fall. Positive leaders know that brokenness



makes influence easy. This leadership quality is so fundamental since nobody can have influence without connection with the people. The main purpose of leadership is to raise leaders. Allow the people around you to express their highest potentials.

*“Leadership has nothing to do with position.”*



## CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

### PECULIARITY

*“Respect everyone, but stand in awe of no one.”*

Our individual peculiarity is found in our simplicity. It is in this state of honesty that we truly touch others.

When you let the glory of God flow through you into the hearts of men, He uses you in an amazing way to heal the world. It is the Lord’s desire for you not to becloud His grace upon your life with insecurity. Your originality is the instrument God uses to heal the wounded. You are called to impart lives. Be true to yourself.

Christianity is a process towards transformation. You are not called unto perfection but to a divine purpose. When you sur-

render to God, He will use you to be a blessing to other people too.

You are God's best idea. He created you to represent Him. Stand in the truth of your divine identity. You don't have to twist your personality to please people. You are called to please God. Be what God designed you to be without apology.

Be genuine and honest with people. Stand for truth and be the light. People may not like you but they will definitely respect you. You are an original, don't die a copy.

*“Don't be afraid to be different.”*



## CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE

### PROJECT

*“The secret of efficiency is to think and plan and give the project all your constructive effort...”*

- Norman Vincent Peale

Ideas are things. They are the seeds of our dreams and the extension of divinity in the human spirit. Ideas are mostly birth through intense imaginative engagements. And when these ideas become even stronger, they form an image in you that also transforms into a larger vision outwardly.

God deposited creative depth in your spirit. This is so profound because it shows the well of wisdom that is made available to you when you yield your spirit to God. He fills you with potent creativity that could bless lives around the world.

Projects are touch-stones to your purpose. They are birth through a divine intercourse with the Holy Spirit. When you spend moments with the Lord, He fills your mind with divine concepts that can transform lives. You make transactions in the spirit whenever you spend time with God. Bill Johnson said, ‘God is the only One that can feed our hunger and still leave us hungry to crave for more.’

It takes a divine idea to shut the gate of hell and thwart demonic activities on earth. If you embark on missions as directed by heaven, you bring lasting solutions to the problems of men. Every project inspired by God answers a question on planet earth. Any venture you engage in which does not make the world a better place is simply not of God.

It is the desire of heaven to heal the earth again from every pain the enemy has caused it. And God wants to use men like you to bring hope back to wounded people. You are a gift to our world. You are a savior and a messiah sent to this generation. You must fertilize your mind with God’s Word each day so that you can pick the divine signals from His Spirit. Saturate your atmosphere with His glory and you will only exude divinity!

We read in the Bible how God gave Noah an uncommon inspiration to build an Ark. That was not a simple assignment for an old man like him. It took a measure of faith to obey God when it never rained on earth before then. Noah never knew the sound of rain. God gave him the necessary details of the measurements and specific materials needed to carry out the project God placed in his spirit. You must note that Noah faced mockery from people while he was obeying God.

The Bible said that when the Ark was completed, Noah and all his family and a specific number of animals went in. God shut the door of the Ark Himself and there was a heavy down pour on the earth.

You need a detailed direction in carrying out the vision God gave to you. King Saul was rejected because he couldn't follow through with instructions. Solomon followed every detail given by God to build the temple. And God's presence rested there when it was completed.

*“Build according to pattern.”*



## CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR

### PRIDE

*“Humble people are comfortable with being great.”*

Humility is a quality of being courteously respectful of others. A humble person is not afraid to fail. A humble person asks questions. Humility is the willingness to observe and learn from others. When you enter the presence of great people you bend down and become a listener. Be a student of your environment. There is something to learn from everyone. In the valley Peter was a leader among the disciples, but in the mountain of transfiguration, he became an observer. There are levels where you must humble yourself and become like a little child. God leads the meek.

*“Who is a wise man and endowed with knowledge*

*among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.”*

-James 3:13

A big part of humility is knowing your strength and weaknesses. Be quick to apologize for your mistakes. You'll never learn or grow by making excuses and diverting blame. Put other people first and show a genuine interest in their well-being. John Wooden said,

*“Talent is God given. Be humble. Fame is a man given. Be grateful. Conceit is self-given. Be careful.”*

It takes meekness to lead. A leader takes the pressure and fear from off his followers. He celebrates them and also protects them. Humility actually makes people better followers. It turns followers into leaders. People trust a leader that carries them along. An arrogant leader sees his followers as his competitors. He strangles their growth and creates fear in them. Such leaders are insecure.

Humility makes your relationship with others better. Self-control is one key to a successful life because an obsession with self can lead to self-destruction. Celebrate others. Find something good about people and focus on it. Humble people tend to exhibit compassion and kindness. Kindness is not weakness. Research reveals that showing kindness to others makes you happier and healthier.

Humility is strength brought under control. People with humility possess an inner peace. They're modest about their achievements, grounded in their values, and they have nothing to prove to others. Be honest. Let people know your limits. You don't have to do anything to impress anyone. Don't com-



pare yourself with others. This is one of the most important principles in life. Never compare yourself with others. You are wonderfully made. God created you with rare potentials. No two people on planet earth have the same fingerprint. This principle cures competition and creates a sense of fulfilment.

I believe that pride is even more expressed when you begin to find refuge in a low self-esteem. And it is in this state of false identity that the enemy creeps into your heart to poison the divine purposes and plans. Your doubt towards God's promises reflects the sin of pride. If you actually know who you are in God, you should have no need seeing yourself below or beyond where He placed you. Pride takes the focus off from God to self.

Pride dwells in the heart and manifests itself in our everyday living. It is revealed when you look down on others or compare yourself with people. Pride compares; humility accommodates. Comparing yourself with others robs you of your uniqueness.

The spirit of pride manifests through self-dependence. The Bible tells us of a king who lifted his heart and boasted of his accomplishments. He praised himself. The Lord turned him into a beast and sent him to the forest to live like an animal for seven years. God resists the proud, but He gives grace to the humble. Pride seeks for attention.

Another king in the New Testament stood before his people and eulogized himself. He didn't give the glory to God. The people were singing his praises as he boasted of his eminence. The angel of the Lord struck him to death at that moment; maggots ate up his flesh. Self-exalted people end up in shame. You will not end up in shame.

Humility is a state of brokenness before God.

*“The humble do not realize they are humble. Their actions and attributes are as natural as breathing. You can be humble only when you are conscious of being great. Real humility is not rooted in a sense of humiliation but in a sense of being inwardly great in Christ. The one who carries an air of superiority is really suffering from sense of littleness because the little person doesn't dare to be humble...The little man is afraid to bend lest he expose his littleness.”*

- Selwyn Hughes



## CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE

### PERSECUTION

*“Your dream irritates someone.”*

Joseph dreamed consciously. His dream for transformation was so large that it carried his entire generation. His elder brothers envied him and sold him into slavery. They couldn't contain his strange ideas. His father had placed a coat of many colors on him which was the divine prophecy of his royal destiny. Although he was sold out to the children of Ishmael who brought him into Egypt, God granted him favor in the house of his master.

Joseph still held onto his faith in the face of temptation from his master's wife. He was accused and incarcerated but the favor on his life was soon noticed by the prison warder. Jo-

seph became a leader in the prison!

Joseph's light was shining even in his darkest moments. He didn't let the hatred of his brothers or the allegation of his master's wife to stop him from clinging to the covenant of God. He knew that the God of his great ancestors would see him through.

Every anointed one goes through persecutions. This is often when the enemy sets up chaotic situations to shake your spiritual position. His intention is to ultimately unsettle you, and also strip you of your glorious vision. But you need to develop a heart that refuses to quit in the face of hell. This requires courage and faith. Faith in God empowers you to sail through the storms and come out stronger.

The enemy instigated Pharaoh to kill all male children in Egypt. His target was to destroy Moses who would deliver Israel from slavery. But God hid Moses in Pharaoh's palace by making his daughter adopt him. God preserved Moses in the house of his enemy.

The devil has no business fighting empty people. Persecution shows that you have moved from shallow level to a deeper place in your walk with the Master. Sometimes it's a sign that God trusts you and wants to prove the enemy wrong, like in the case of Job. The devil knows what you are carrying within you. So his fight is to abort your vision before you even manifest. But God has a better plan. He has a rescue plan for you. His big plan transcends your present challenges. At the end you will watch with awe how much He has accomplished in your life. You will come out stronger to carry your generation into their promise. Persecution brings out the value in you.

*“Every true vision faces the enemy's attack.”*



## CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX

### PLIGHT

*“Nothing lives until it dies.”*

There is no storm free life. Challenges precede victory. It takes a test to birth a testimony. Job feared God, shunned evil and was a wealthy man. God bragged about him to the face of the devil. The Bible tells us how God allowed the enemy to buffet him. He lost everything except his trust in God. Job saw beyond his test. He made God proud!

Paul Adefarasin said, ‘adversity helps you to have confidence in the gift of God in your life.

*” There are places and people you may not reach if you have not gone through diverse tests and shak-*

*ings. I will not let anyone guide me who has not been through storms, because he doesn't know how it feels. It is through crisis that you connect with others.*

Storms often precede your next level of promotion in life. They come to prepare you for the breakthrough. I feel I should share this experience with you. I went through a very challenging season in my life that left me homeless, sleeping in my car and taking shower at the gym. I moved my things to the storage and took few cloths and shoes in my trunk. But i came out from that season a better man.

Your perspective plays a powerful role here. It is not what you go through but what it accomplishes inside of you. It is not the destination that really counts, but what you become through the process. See beyond the pain. You are better than all the things you went through in life.

*“Gold is in the mud.”*



## CHAPTER TWENTY-SEVEN

### PITFALL

*“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenges and controversy.”*

- Dr Martin Luther King.

The angel of the Lord visited a woman in the bible and revealed the birth of an uncommon child. And the angel gave divine instructions as it concerns the forthcoming child. She was to observe those sacred orders to usher this rare baby into his prophetic destiny.

Samson was blessed by God in wisdom, strength and wealth.

His valor was of immense value to the people of God in his days. He was ordained and anointed from his mother's womb to protect his people from the attacks of the enemies. He carried the glory of heaven on his inside wherever he went. He conquered cities.

But Samson gradually began to fall in love with a woman in the valley of Sorek whose name was Delilah. She became instrumental in the hands of the Philistines to dilute Samson and strip him off his glory. Samson gave out the secret of his strength to a strange woman.

*“And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head; and she began to afflict him, and his strength went from him.”*

-Judges 16:19

As you make every effort to come to the place of success you must also mark the potholes that characterize its pathway. The route to the fulfillment of your visions can be slippery.

Every visionary leader is a target in the kingdom of darkness. You are on the hit list of hell. The enemy knows you carry divine solutions to the chaos he is causing around the world. He knows how important you are to the liberation of nations. So don't expect that he folds his arms and see you bring answer to the tears of people. You are in a battle front. Sit up!

*“Don't waver, steady yourself in God and stay on track.”*

-Richard Williams III





## CHAPTER TWENTY-EIGHT

### PREMATURITY

*“God has no desire in the emergency glorification of any man.”*

– Gbile Akanni

Uzziah was only a child when he was chosen to be the king of Israel in the place of his father. It was recorded that he pleased God and the Lord prospered him exceedingly in wealth and fame.

King Uzziah defeated his enemies, breaking down their walls and strongholds. He waxed great in his royal position continuously. The Bible also said that he built towers in deserts and dug wells. Those were marks of outstanding feats in his days.

*“But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction: for he transgressed against the Lord his God, and went into the temple of the Lord to burn incense upon the altar of the incense.”*

– II Chronicles 26:16

The moment the heart of this young leader was filled with pride, he lost his royal place. The high priest urged him to leave the altar since he was not ordained to burn the incense, but he wouldn't listen. His attitude revealed his loftiness of heart. Even though he was the king, he lacked the wisdom to stick to his place of assignment. He stepped out of line.

Arrogant people rarely stay in their calling. They often act as impostors. But we serve a God that resists the proud and gives grace to the humble.

God struck King Uzziah with leprosy while he was still arguing with the priests who came to rescue him from the altar. These priests of the Lord actually saw the anger of God coming on him. Arrogance has a way of blindfolding us until the destruction hits. King Uzziah died in that illness.

What went wrong in the life of this young man who started doing exploits from a very tender age? He skipped his training process. There are basic preparations required of any person who would take the place of leadership. This is where one gets incubated for the assignment he is going to assume.

Uzziah missed the vital education of a king. Perhaps he wore the crown so soon. He became proud of being chosen so soon. He could have learnt kingship like Solomon who observed his father.

Solomon was mentored by David. And most of his wise say-

ings in the book of Proverbs were coined from his father's words. Even though he was the son of an adulterous mother, he was able to stand out from other sons of David.

God has already pictured our destiny from eternity but He sends us to the place of development. His ultimate plan is to bring out a masterpiece through the several stages of development we are forced to go through.

Rare leaders are trained in obscurity. And trained people do not break protocols. We can represent Heaven without seeking names for ourselves. It takes patience to have audience; patience to understand that where we find ourselves today is not the destination but the process. The journey is what really matters to God because it is where we learn the habits that uphold success.

*“Leaders are made in the process.”*



## CHAPTER TWENTY-NINE

### PLATFORM

*“If you can see it you can seize it.”*

You can go as far as he can see. The Bible says that if your eye is on a single purpose, your entire body gets illuminated along the way.

It’s time you set your mind towards the direction you expect your life to go. You have to go higher in your view of the future like the eagle. This is the kind of vision that dwells on the mountain peak. Stretch your dreams to be larger than your present state. Vision sets the soul on fire!

Every great feat began as a seed. While you are on the look-out for your big break, you must maximize your present state.

Greatness begins in your daily routine. Before you go global, you need to prepare local. Jabez saw beyond his mother's view of him. He went ahead to set his own platform. He didn't wait for fate to decide his future. God does not determine how far you go in life.

*“Jabez was more honorable than his brothers, and his mother named him Jabez saying, “Because I bore him with pain.” Now Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, “Oh that You would bless me indeed and enlarge my border, and that your hand might be with me, and that You would keep me from harm that it may not pain me!” And God granted him what he requested.”*

-1 Chr. 4:10

We must conceive bigger ideas for our generation. Let your dream be ridiculous enough to stir the mockery of people. Preparation is a key thing. And the profound thing about preparation is that nobody can duplicate your skills even though they try to imitate you.

I suggest you keep working on yourself. Time is coming when your small environment can no longer contain you. That is exactly when the world will see you manifest. Excellence cannot be hidden. Glory needs no introduction.

When you discover the vision that sees the invisible, you do the impossible. You have to create a large space in your spirit where God can birth your destiny. You can become amazement to men around you. It all starts on your inside. Within you is where the seed of greatness is incubated.

Helen Keller who didn't allow blindness to stop her from reaching into her deepest potentials also commented, ‘the

greatest tragedy in life is not physical blindness but blindness of the spirit... One can never consent to crawl when one feels an impulse to soar.'

Imagination is an irresistible power that draws everything it sees. The human mind is the most potent force on earth. It is a great gift you can never afford to ignore in your quest to fulfill destiny. It is your duty to think outside the box and dare the impossible. You may have to take a leap of faith. Take charge of your goals and maximize it while you still live. Tap into the realm of the invisible! Train your spirit to go to work and bring to pass everything you desire!

*“Make no small plan, for they have no capacity to stop men’s souls. The future belongs to people who see the possibilities before they become obvious.”*

– Ted Levitt



## CHAPTER THIRTY

### PROFESSION

*“Your value is in your calling.”*

God sees ahead of you. He already designed your end before time began. There is a calling on you to accomplish something bigger than you. This goes beyond the desire to get a degree, wear a title or become successful. It is a deep craving to add value to our world.

Passion is the gateway to the human soul. You will not discover true joy in life until you stay connected to the very essence of your existence. That is the beginning of peace, joy and fulfillment in life!

When you do what God anointed you to do; you will come

out fit to handle greater tasks. The process may take time. Sometimes you may have to start from something that looks so microscopic and grow it gradually into significance. You may not derive great excitement in your present task but it is only meant to support you until you step into your assignment. There is a bigger picture ahead of you. Seek the face of God for clarity.

Great things are birth in obscurity. Whatever you find yourself doing now will have some connection to the ultimate purpose of heaven for you. You are not just here to waste time. You are in the process to something greater. God is teaching you humility and faithfulness in small things. But don't build your future in a temporary place. Your present paycheck is not the blessing God promised you. Grow into your God ordained place. Focus on your core. Apostle Peter was a fisher before he began to fish men for God.

Whatever draws you is a clue to your calling. Listen to the voice within. It is the power of attraction that defines destiny. The things you are not attracted to have no connection with your life. Listen to your heart.

Jesus' passion for His Father's house made Him upset at the traders who turned the temple into a market place. His zeal for God's house moved Him into action. The zeal of His Father's house was driving Him. Discover what really awakens your soul. The Bible says that God has planted eternity in the hearts of men. This symbolizes the depth of passion; a purpose that is deeper than the need to impress people. You are performing for the audience of one!

*"I could have played football for free."*

-Austin 'Jay-Jay' Okocha





## CHAPTER THIRTY-ONE

### POVERTY

*“Overcoming poverty is not an act of charity; it is an act of justice. Where there is poverty, there is no true freedom.”*

Creativity is the key to the human soul. It is the inner drive to reach for a goal that resonates with our core. You don't need money, you need the right idea. The world will pay you for your creativity. People will reward you for the problems you solve. When passion meets pain at the curve of the creative thought wealth is born.

Pour yourself into the very thing that pulls you. Passion is so potent that when it meets the right idea at the right moment it changes the world. People don't have financial problems

but idea problem. The instant you ignite your mind and let it embrace the right opportunity, you soar!

You can command wealth with wisdom. But you must see beyond the crisis by catching uncommon concepts.

The Bible says that God gives us the power (dynamic ability) to create wealth. Divine ideas threaten the kingdom of darkness because it brings healing to the wounded.

Abraham was greater than kings by wisdom. Isaac applied creative force and was commanding wealth in dry season. Jacob expressed mental prowess and his father-in-law bowed to him. Joseph and Daniel were slaves but their divine ideas brought them to royalty. Wealth is already in you! Stir the waters of your creativity.

Preparing yourself for financial success requires personal discipline. You must discover the different dimensions of divine endowments deposited in you. God planted a river in Eden to water the garden. This river would spread into four channels and flow into different locations of the land. The Word of God confirms that the water enriched the garden. The rivers produced gold, precious stones and other valuable natural treasures.

These rivers created an atmosphere of utopia for Adam and Eve to dwell. This is profound in our lives as people of God in this present time. God has planted spiritual gifts and natural talents in you. And you are obliged to harness those gifts for maximum productivity. They are your support systems. God didn't leave you empty. You have something nobody else on planet earth has!

The wealth of this world belongs to you but you have to rise

up and take charge of your Father's possessions. It all depends on your ability to dream big and dig deeper into those gifts.

This is the time to dream the impossible and ignore the ridicule. The Bible says that spiritual things are foolishness to people with shallow mindset. God called Abraham the father of nations when he had no child. He was childless yet dreaming to own the entire world! He dreamed big enough for God to come into the scene, and he became a kingdom legend.

Faith is the code that unlocks the unfamiliar. Your destiny is the unfamiliar and you require faith as its password. Faith is a glorious adventure. Your success in life is coded in faith. Let God dream for you!

*“There is nothing funny about being poor”*

-Farrah Gray



## CHAPTER THIRTY-TWO

### PAIN

*“Pain is a natural consequence of the birthing process.”*

- Shola Adesoye

My mother is a very strong part of my life. We share certain powerful traits that created a rare mother-son bond between us. She once shared a story with me as a teenager that changed the entire trajectory of my life.

When she was pregnant with me she went through bleeding for a space of six months. My father and even the doctor never thought I was going to make it out of the womb alive. They gave up hope. But my mother won't give up hope. She was so desperate and locked herself in a room one day to cry out to God in her pool of blood. She engaged the prayer of Hannah

in the Bible.

*“And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed to the Lord and wept in anguish. Then she made a vow and said, “O Lord of hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and remember me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a male child, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life, and no razor shall come upon his head.”*

-1 Samuel 1:10-11

That was the cry that got God’s attention. The bleeding stopped immediately and God spoke to her through a prophet to name the child ‘Emmanuel. He shall be a prophet unto the Lord throughout his life.’ The book of Mark 1:23 was the anchor scripture the prophet gave her. I was born perfectly whole and strong on the 16th November 1982 in a Catholic maternity home in our community.

The part of the story that got me was that I came out of the womb bigger than expected. In fact my mother got her bony structure dislocated in the process of my birth. The enemy saw what was coming and tried to terminate it prematurely. When Jesus entered the boat of Peter and asked him to cast his net once again for a catch, he caught so much more that his net began to break. The blessing was bigger than the channel. Greatness will shake you. Success is uncomfortable. Pain is a sign that your blessing is much larger than you can ever imagine!

Challenges surround the way of the anointed. Leaders are processed in the chaos. And God’s intention is to empower you through those attacks to take charge. Storms mature us!

Kirk Franklin sang, ‘the pain was a preparation for my destiny.’ You are not created to be a normal person and that is why abnormal situations come your way. You are designed to be an uncommon being on earth, causing changes at will. God would shake everything around you until you are completely in alignment with His plans for your life. Stop running away from the process. Pass the test now or you keep repeating class.

Pain builds you. God uses pain to develop you. It pleased God to bruise His own Son on the cross. The crushing on the cross was necessary for Jesus. He became the sweet wine because He was poured out. His blood was offered. He became the bread of life because He was broken. God breaks anything and anyone He must use. You were not created to go through life with ease because that is not reality. Storms are part of life. The reason the fire is so hot is because you are coming out as pure gold. It takes fire to make gold. There is purpose in the pain. Remember, if God allows it, He knows how to bring good out of it.

Although, sometimes we bring pains upon ourselves with poor choices, thus in order not to waste your pain you have to learn the lessons. Stick to what you learned from the experience and let go of the negative event. Your pain shall not be wasted. God uses pain as a change agent.

There is a plan in the pain you are dealing with right now to birth purpose out of your life. Adversity precedes every major breakthrough in life. The pains you experience give you the internal energy to grow strong. And it is your responsibility to draw passion out of every pain. Challenging times are defining moments in life.

*“The adversity you face in your life brings out the best in you.”*

-Nelson Mandela



## CHAPTER THIRTY-THREE

### PEN

*“It is chiefly through books that we enjoy intercourse with superior minds. In the best books great men talk to us, give their souls into ours.”*

-William E. Channing

Books are marvelous gifts of life. I could trace the successes of my life to the books I read over the years. I began to invest in my life at a young age as a teenager back in Africa. I spent my little pocket money purchasing inspirational books. I gave much time to building my mind through intensive reading. I knew my success was not in school but in my mind!

So while my mates in school studied to pass their examina-



tions, God gave me a higher vision to see beyond the school walls. I knew what I was searching for was not there. I had to channel my energy the right way. I had my mind somewhere else even though my physical body was in class. I was often caught thinking or sketching things on piece of paper while the class was going on. The teacher would send me out of the class for being absent minded.

*“While my class mates were reading the books other people wrote to pass in school, I was writing a book other people would read to succeed in life.”*

Readers become Leaders. Find a way to write your own story. Your daily experience could become someone else’s miracle. You can win the war you lost when you begin to release the ideas you caught through your journey. There are lots of potent ideas that flood your mind on a daily basis. When captured, most of those concepts could become life lessons for your generation to draw from. You are someone’s miracle.

*“Greatness comes in seedlings.”*

Keep a note by you wherever you are. The shortest pen is better than the longest memory. I have my writing materials beside me everywhere I find myself. I’m passionate for ideas! Some thoughts will not come back to you a second time. Ideas are things. They can grow wings and fly away. Your ideas are potent powers of imagination that could revolutionize lives. Your story is some else’s victory. Thoughts rule the world!

Clarence Day wrote:

*“The world of books is the most remarkable creation of man; nothing else that he builds ever lasts. Monuments fall, nations perish, and civilizations grow old*

*and die out. After an era of darkness, new races build others; but in the world of books are volumes that live on still as young and fresh as the day they were written, still telling men's hearts of the hearts of men centuries dead."*

*"Every God given idea is pregnant with success."*



## CHAPTER THIRTY-FOUR

### PANIC

*“Don’t doubt your dreams.”*

Jesus walked on water one night to meet up with His disciples who were in the boat. They were terrified to see him because they felt He was a ghost. But someone among them felt something different from the others. Peter requested that the Master command him to come and meet Him on the water. Peter did walk on the water, but when he saw the wind he began to panic and was to sink. Jesus gave him a helping hand and said, ‘why did you doubt!’

Peter stepped out in faith but ended up in fear. Had Jesus not reached out for him while he was sinking he would have drowned. You have to build up faith for the storms of life because they will surely come. They don’t come to destroy you. They come to make you stronger. You are exceptional for the

things you went through in life.

*“Doubt your doubts.”*

A man is worth the measure of courage he carries per time. What you have the tenacity to throw your life into defines your strength. Faith is not the absence of fear. It is rather the courage to approach fear when an escape route is available. Faith makes you run towards your fear. That is the inner virtue every uncommon person carries. Life may throw you a curveball but that is where true faith is tested. Faith is not required in easy times in life, when the sailing is sweet. You need faith for rocky places. Faith is for the dark moments. Faith is for the invisible.

Always bear in mind that the reason everything shakes around you is because of the greatness on your life. Those adversities are signs of God’s mighty hand on you. You are the right man to experience the storms you face today. God trusted you enough to send you on a journey into the storms. He saw the waves coming. And He will also be there to give you a helping hand. Step out of that boat! Safety is risky!

Constant worrying takes a heavy toll on you. Focusing on the crisis won’t keep bad things from happening. It will only keep you from enjoying the good things you have in the present. So if you want to stop worrying, start by focusing on the immediate need. Live in the present and hand the future over to God.

*“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. 7 Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you*

*live in Christ Jesus.” -Philippians 4:6-7 NLT*

Every failure is a product of fear. The enemy uses the strategy of fear or panic to strip you of God’s promises for your lives. Faith must swallow fear. The enemy senses when your promises are about to get fulfilled. He often plants the seed of fear in your heart to doubt God’s Word over your lives. He has seen the blessing ahead. That is the reason he mounts his oppositions. Remember that the attack of fear is a proof that your success is much closer to you than before.

*“Fear is the opposite of faith.”*



## CHAPTER THIRTY-FIVE

### PROCESS

*“The highest reward of our labor is not what we get from it, but what we become by it.”*

People who attained their desired goals too quickly often lack the tenacity it takes to stay there. If you don't earn it, you can't own it. There are some things you have to learn along the way that will shape you. The most powerful tool the enemy uses against you is your mind. Therefore you need to renew your mind with God's word. Start visualizing your situation in a new way.

*“When we are sure that we are on the right road there is no need to plan our journey too far ahead. No need to burden ourselves with doubts and fears as to the*

*obstacles that may bar our progress. We cannot take more than one step at a time”- Orison S. Marden*

The plan of God for your life often takes time to come to full shape. It actually takes a life-time to experience true fulfillment. And God intentionally made it that way so you can grasp the essence of living. What really matters to Him is not what you accomplish in life but what you become in the process. Success is a journey!

Character is success. When you carry this mindset through your daily living it help you to develop strong character. The rare attributes you are able to cultivate in this journey will go a long way to stand you out. Pastor Matthew Hagee said, ‘a revolutionary success is a product of an evolutionary life. You will go through a metamorphosis that continuously adds beauty to your personality.

*“Life is a puzzle, every piece fits together to create who we are, what we do, how we feel. Every experience shapes us into ‘who’ we will eventually become.”*

The moment you allow yourself to be incubated by the Spirit of God through the challenging moments, you come out stronger and wiser. Distinction in any field of life is achieved by discipline. Discipline is the willingness to do what others don’t feel like doing. Success is accomplished by the student who gets up to study when the majority of others are asleep. Success is uncomfortable. And nothing uncommon is ever accomplished in the comfort zone.

*Jamal Bryant say, “when God puts a burden on your back, understand that your process will never match another’s process. You cannot shun your own process in preference to another’s because God is taking you*

*to a different place.”*

Seasoning is a process! Weaning takes time. Structure is not automatic. Preparation is equal to manifestation. Greatness is built from the fragments of our broken moments. Success is a process, it is not a destination.

Leaders are separated on the pathway, not just in the spotlight of accomplishments. They are produced through the transitions of life. The discomfort you feel as you go through the process does not only rebrand you but it creates beauty out of you. Between the prophetic declaration and the manifestation there is always time for preparation. We call it ‘the waiting period.’

*“The person interested in success has to learn to view failure as a healthy, inevitable part of the process of getting to the top.”*





## CHAPTER THIRTY-SIX

### PROVISION

*“Vision precedes provision.”*

God may not give you money but He will meet all your needs. It is your responsibility to believe Him for the provision you require to accomplish your mission on earth. He provides for whatever He calls for. God positions helpers on your pathway to destiny. Destiny helpers go out of their own way to help you fulfill the divine plan of God for your lives. God often plants rare people on your path to navigate you through the curves of life. These are people who have the vital things you need to get to fulfill your assignment. Your vision needs a network.

Jonathan risked his position as a prince to allow David fulfill

destiny as a king. A certain man saw Joseph lost in the desert and showed him the way forward. The butler told the king about Joseph and brought him out to lime light. Ruth followed her mother in-law and found her Boaz. The queen told the king about the great wisdom in Daniel which was compared to the wisdom of the gods. Esther recommended Mordecai. John the Baptist introduced Jesus to the world. Someone is observing you who is capable of changing your status.

The Bible is filled with stories of how God divinely provided for His own people in critical times. You have to be in the right spiritual atmosphere to encounter your destiny helper. A widow gave up her last meal to Prophet Elijah before he released a Word that changed her condition. The disciples had enough faith in their Master to go to the river and open the mouth of a fish before they found some money in there. A boy gave his only lunch to Jesus and saw it multiplied to feed more than five thousand people in a desert. Jesus saw faith in the people who filled jars with water and He turned the water into wine. Divine provision responds to your obedience.

Every act of God requires some measure of faith and obedience. Success is a faith walk. God leads people into strange territories where they will only be sustained by faith. Faith steps into an empty space and turns it into fullness. Faith steps into the unknown. It is only in the natural realm that people make moves after surveying the outcome, but the reverse is the case in the spiritual realm. Faith breaks statistics. In fact, Faith embarrasses facts. Obedience to the Word of God is the key that unlocks unlimited provision. You take the step first and He makes available the needed supplies.

*“Treat everyone you meet as a gate-keeper to your destiny.”*  
*-Joel Osteen*



## CHAPTER THIRTY-SEVEN

### PARENTS

*“Blessing responds to the voice of honor.”*

Your parents are God sent. They have been given the grace to birth, nurture and give you the first godly foundation in life. They are bridges to your greatness. Honor is the virtue that draws out their blessings over our lives.

I have seen gifted people ruined because they lost the vital connection with their parents. They suddenly grew above corrections, became filled with pride and the enemy attacked them. Samson was brought down the moment he disconnected from the supervision of godly parents? He lost his place in the heart of his mother and his covering was lifted.

His mother and father saw ahead of him. Even though he carried the seed of greatness, he couldn't discern his destruction.

There was something he couldn't capture about himself. Yes, he was gifted but he was vulnerable. He was anointed but he was not prepared! One can be gifted but still unprotected. Samson was strong physically but very weak spiritually.

He was still in the womb when God spoke to his mother about his birth. But Samson didn't stay long enough with his mother to receive the mentorship he required to sustain what he was carrying. He skipped vital training. His greatness destroyed him.

Samuel came to fulfill the covenant his mother made to God before he was born! Prophecy makes the man! Prophecy calls you to destiny. You live to express the Word sent ahead of you.

Great men are products of great parenting. People that made marks in the sand of time were mostly nurtured by God fearing parents. The bosoms of your parents are the springboards upon which you step into your calling. I am not saying you should remain under your parent's roof. Neither do I suggest that you stay tied to their apron strings for life. I'm just encouraging you to honor them as God instructed. Freedom without restriction is destructive.

Family is where great people are molded. Children eventually reflect their foundation. Any seed sown into a child by a parent will eventually find its way into their future. Parents must be careful of what they sow in the lives of their children. Seeds speak. And our seeds have the ability to outlive us. The seeds we sow will represent us someday. Seeds travel farther than we think! Our actions and words around children are seeds.

*"There is a star in every child."*



## CHAPTER THIRTY-EIGHT

### PROBLEMS

*“Every challenge refines us for His glory.”*

There is a sleeping giant within you. Adversity is one way by which you find your place in life. The challenges you encounter in life are orchestrated to bring out the very best in you. They actually help to reveal the creativity lying dormant within.

Your patience may be under a test like Job in the Bible. This brother became an object of bragging for God. He made God proud by remaining perfect and upright in the face of death. God allowed the devil to put his filthy finger on him. Could it be that God chose you to prove the devil wrong? So stop complaining and stay faithful. You have been picked for a battle beyond you.

God is building character in you. And you will be a blessing to others. Stay strong. God is interested in you. God is excited about you because you will come out stronger. Heaven placed so much trust on you. The beauty you will exude will draw people to the kingdom of God.

You may go through moments that will ultimately strengthen your vision. The experiences that will push you forward come from the fragments of brokenness. Be alert to those seeds of hope that fall by the pathway of pain. You are strongest in your broken places.

*“You got some problems? Congratulation!”*

-Norman Vincent Peale



## CHAPTER THIRTY-NINE

### PROCRASTINATION

*“Procrastination is my sin; it brings me naught but sorrow. I know that I should stop it. In fact, I will—tomorrow.”*

You need to realize that your commitment will be tested. Anybody can stay committed when it’s easy; when it doesn’t cost them much. Storms and challenges will prove your commitment. Your roots, character and values will all be shaken.

You can’t get something if you are not willing to put something in it. To be successful in anything you have to put all the resources you have. Remember, greatness comes with a price. It costs to stand out. Only cheap stuff goes on sale. Quality costs. You need to set a standard not only for yourself, but also for those looking up to you. People will respect you more when you do what you promised. You have to pay attention

to little things. Some things that don't matter to you can mean a lot to someone. It means you are honest and one with your word.

Procrastination is the thief of time. Whatever God deposits in your spirit for accomplishment requires urgency. And every divine opening demands an instant step to take advantage of it. A wise man said that every opportunity in life has an expiration date.

A story in the Bible told of a master who was preparing to travel and gave gifts to his servants. One of the servants hid the master's gift while the other two doubled their talents through wise investments. The master was pleased with the two wise servants and gave them greater reward for their labor. But he was unhappy with the irresponsible servant who couldn't utilize his creative ability to reproduce talents.

Early in life I knew that everything I would ever need to excel has been put in my spirit. The moment I saw the glimpse of certain gifts in me, I went ahead and started working on them. I didn't have to perfect it; I only had to start taking small steps towards accomplishing them. God loves to work with people that know the urgency of divine instructions.

In my effort to sharpen my gifts, I made mistakes. But I learnt my lessons every step of the way. Mistakes are proofs of progress. That ungrateful servant was afraid to take a step. He didn't want to go through the discomfort needed for him to grow. Procrastination is cowardice. It kills vision. Men of vision have the heart of a lion and the eyes of an eagle. Boldness is the trademark of great people.

*"The moment one definitely commits oneself, then providence moves too. All sorts of things occur to help*



*one that would never otherwise occurred. A whole stream of events issues from the decision, raising in one's favor all manner of unforeseen incidents and meetings and material assistance which no man could have dreamed would have come his way. Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it. Begin it now."*

- Goethe

The righteous will live by faith and not by fate. If you keep watching the wind you will not sow your seeds. Go ahead and start doing what God has ordained for you to do. Follow your passion. God didn't call you to perfection but to purpose. Quit trying to get it all together the first time. There is no perfect moment to take a step towards the goals God laid in your heart to accomplish. He saw your human limitations before He placed those potentials in you. There is no better time to start fulfilling your dreams. Now is the time!

*"Do it now!"*



## CHAPTER FOURTY

### PRODIGAL

*“The deepest challenge facing this generation is spiritual orphanage.”*

Fathers are feathers on whose wings we soar. There is no limit to the height you can go if you are willing to sit under the wings of a mentor. Mentorship is the difference between success and failure.

The story of the prodigal son is common among Christians. The prodigal son felt he was grown enough to handle his own affairs, so he demanded his share of his father’s wealth and traveled to a far country. But he left behind the most important factor which is the wisdom of his father.

There is nothing wrong with being independent. But when one is not trained to handle inheritance, he becomes a victim of the blessing. That was the limitation of this young man. And that is still the failure of our generation today. This generation parades the most creative minds in history but a gross amount of them die without fulfilling their vision. Greatness is replicated through stewardship, submission and obedience. Those who bend down to serve will always rise to lead.

The prodigal son wasted his father's riches and came home miserable. It takes wisdom to sustain wealth. Wisdom is the product of meekness. King Solomon asked God for wisdom and God added wealth to it because you can't have wisdom and not have wealth.

The difference between a son and a servant is not their positions. The difference is wisdom. David understood leadership more than Jonathan and he became the king. Solomon understood leadership better than Absalom and he was chosen over him. The Bible says that a wise servant will have rule over a son that brings shame. Solomon sat under his father's mentorship while Absalom was ganging up to kill him. Great sons are raised!

*“Now I say, that the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all.”*

-Gal 4:1



## CHAPTER FOURTY-ONE

### PAST

*“Your future is not in your past.”*

The longer you live, the longer you understand how the enemy works. He doesn't have to afflict you directly. In most instances he brings back flashes of your past failures to distract you. The longer you dwell on these negative thoughts the more chances the enemy has to afflict you.

God is smarter than all the forces coming against you. That is why He placed your blessing in front of you and not behind you. The devil visits your past to set an attack against your destiny. He has no access to your future. But God already placed your greatness before you and not behind you. Your best days are ahead of you. You are expected to reach out to grasp all you are designed to be.

Your mistakes are in your past. Your opportunities are before you and not behind you. So the wise thing is to step further ahead to walk into a better you. Your enemy uses your past to attack your future. But he doesn't know that God's grace already gave you a new page. There is no past in Christ. You are a new being. The old man is dead!

*“The enemy knows your history but God holds your destiny.”*

The consciousness of your past life will only impede your destiny in God. Your past limitations should not be considered in your new life. You must break out from the prison of the past and reach out for better things ahead of you. Visionary men go for higher things. They set goals that keep them going. Vision inspires hope. Your success demands that you keep your focus. Faith doesn't consider what is behind. The Bible says that if your eye be single, your whole body will radiate with light.

When God sent an angel to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah, He gave specific instructions to Lot and his wife. They were instructed to look straight ahead while they run for their lives. Lot's wife admired her past more than she desired for her future. The moment she looked behind, she turned into a pillar of salt. She was stagnated!

The calling placed on your life has put you on a mission with kingdom mandate. You must keep looking unto Jesus as the Author and Finisher of your faith. Keep moving forward! Criticism should not decide your moves. Critics can't do what you do. Critics are those who desire to do the things you do. They are assigned by hell to frustrate you. You must stand on your feet and stop haters from killing your dream!

*“Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”*

-Philippians 3:13-14



## CHAPTER FOURTY-TWO

### POPULARITY

*“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.”*

*-Genesis 12:2*

God is not obscure. He does not identify Himself with mediocrity. No act of God is hidden. He is too conspicuous to be insignificant; the same applies to you, His child. Nothing about you should be hidden. The Bible says that we are a city set on a hill that cannot be hidden. Light is visible anywhere you place it. And we are the light of the world. We carry divinity within us. The glory placed on us speaks boldly for the world to see. Glory announces itself!

When Jesus was on earth, He never announced his presence. His shadow raised dead people and healed the sick. So there was no need to introduce himself among the people. The crowd left the city and followed Him into the wilderness to hear Him. His presence commanded attention and attraction effortlessly. You were designed to be known. You were created to be talked about!

The moment you become a child of God, you step up to that level where your presence carries aura. You cannot identify with a known God and be unknown. God placed honor on His people. Abraham was a nonentity until God placed a divine identity on him by making him the father of many nations. From that very moment he became a force to reckon with on earth. Kings were intimidated at the greatness of Abraham. The covenant blessing upon him still speaks till today.

*“The man became rich, and his wealth continued to grow until he became very wealthy. He had so many flocks and herds and servants that the Philistines envied him.”*

- Genesis 26:13-14

The sun shines, the star twinkles and the wind blows. Your power is essentially within you. New birth gives you the nature of God to express heaven without struggle. And that means we are a wonder to our world. You can't be a wonder and not be wondered at. You were designed to be known and celebrated.

*“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light” -1 Peter 2:9*





## CHAPTER FOURTY-THREE

### PEOPLE

*“Your assignment is people oriented.”*

God designed you to be a blessing. Things begin to come together the moment you meet your audience. Resources become available and you sense the willingness in the people to receive you. One of the ways you know you are with the right audience is that your gifts begin to emerge. Something inside of you suddenly comes alive when you meet your crowd. Your crowd will always celebrate you.

Jonah entered the boat and was thrown overboard. It took a fish to land him where God prepared a people for him. The story told that when Jonah delivered the Word to the people he was sent to, there was an amazing harvest. God already made their hearts ready for the message. Jonah was carrying the deliverance of the people but found himself in the wrong

crowd. Everyone cannot grasp the weight of your assignment in life. Find your crowd.

*“As a bird that wandereth from her nest so is a man that wandereth from his place.”*

– Proverbs 27:8

Paul knew he was sent to the gentiles. So he had to equip himself to deliver an exceptional word to them. Jesus knew where He was sent. He didn't go everywhere people gathered. He had no business with the Pharisees and Sadducees. His gifts couldn't manifest even in His own town because the people didn't receive him. Wherever you are celebrated is a pointer to your divine assignment. You were not designed to flourish everywhere. Your gift is custom-made for a chosen people.

You know you are dealing with the wrong crowd if they don't value your presence. Wherever your value depreciates is a wrong atmosphere for you. Those who tolerate your presence are always out of the zone of your influence. Never push to fit into every crowd. They were not sent to receive you. Find your own audience.

Those who feel they are sent to everyone will not make impart. If you are gifted for a particular assignment on earth, God always positions you to express that mandate. You find honor, joy, favor and fulfillment where God sends you!

*“The genius of a fish is only revealed in the water.”*



## CHAPTER FORTY-FOUR

### PATTERN

*“Build according to pattern.”*

God follows divine order. Every act of God is preceded by set precepts. Any man who stood before Him to receive direction for any task on earth observed precision. The account of the creation shows the manifold wisdom of God. The pattern with which everything was made reveals His excellence and sequence. He created everything at the right time. God understands protocols.

When Noah set out to build the Ark, he received specific instructions on how to go about it. God was very precise about what He required for the project. The measurement of the Ark, the length, width and depth were delivered to Noah. And the type of animals he had to preserve was also described. Noah was never confused about what God required from him. He

followed divine instruction every step of the way.

Before King Solomon set out to build the temple of the Lord he equally received a particular pattern from God. The zeal to build didn't supersede the need for details. God pays attention to every little detail. He is never confused about your journey and how to bring you to destiny. You are under heaven's monitor.

The vision God gave you came with certain directives. Each person's assignment has the seal of divine order printed on it. You don't have to follow someone else's path because yours is unique. Follow the guidelines delivered to you from God to unravel your mission on earth.

A writer said that God does not play dice.

*“Success has structure.”*



## CHAPTER FORTY-FIVE

### PLACE

*“You will only find peace in the center of God’s plan for your life.”*

Michelangelo said, ‘it is well with me only when I have a chisel in my hand’. He carved legendary art works that are still celebrated around the world till today. Peace is the proof that you are in God’s will. You feel such unimaginable rest within when you find your place in life.

Jesus is the Prince of peace. There is serenity wherever there is peace that guarantees progress. Life without Christ is filled with crisis. People who accomplish uncommon feats availed themselves of divine guidance. Jesus is the Prince of peace. We need Him to order our steps every step of the way.

*“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusted in thee.”*

- Isaiah 26:3

Jesus Christ was deeply asleep in the boat with His head on a cushion while there was a raging storm. The storms couldn't even wake Him because He was on a mission to fulfill destiny. His disciples had to wake Him out of fear of being drowned!

Jesus was in the center of His calling, so the waves of life couldn't distract Him. That is the testimony of any man that follows God's plan for his life. You find peace in the middle of crisis when you walk with God. Other people may be perplexed and discomfited but you have this quiet confidence sited within you. That is a sign you are on the path to your purpose. Purpose is peaceful!

*“Find your place in life.”*



## CHAPTER FOURTY-SIX

### PLAY

*“Don’t go down to your grave with your song still inside of you?”*

Gifted people break for lack of rest. Great people make the worst mistakes of their lives in their moments of weakness. You can trace every wrong decision in your life to a moment of vulnerability. You can trace major errors of your life to a moment of fatigue. Your mind was weak when you signed a bad deal. You lost very important friendship in your life in a season of weakness. That was when you said something stupid that destroyed a loving relationship.

I have learned not to take important decisions when I’m weak. Energy changes perspective. Strength brings a fresh idea to

every plan. God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh day. Relaxation is the fuel for the next step.

You are a spirit living in a body. Your spirit is eternal but your body is ephemeral. The vision God designed for your life is in your spirit but you need a strong body to carry it. Balance is what keeps us fit for what is ahead.

There is nothing wrong with taking a break from your daily routine to renew and replenish your energy. It helps keep your mind together. A strong mind is a fertile ground for fresh creative ideas.

Prophet Elijah had just done an unusual miracle before the people of Israel by calling fire down from heaven and consequently ordered for the killing of 450 false prophets. The hearts of the people were once again turned to God after they saw the public disgrace of the devil. Queen Jezebel received the news and sent a threat to Elijah. The prophet escaped to the wilderness to hide under a Juniper tree.

He was tired, worn out and empty. The scripture said that an angel brought him some cakes and water. And when he ate his strength was renewed again for another forty day journey.

The angel fed him and got him revitalized for an upcoming mission. This great prophet had poured into other people but nobody was there to pour into him. He was going to die with his anointing still inside of him. Find time to rest and chill out. Take a break. Go for vacation. Get renewed. And come out fresh to deliver.

*“Your weakness is an entry point for the enemy.”*





## CHAPTER FORTY-SEVEN

### POLITENESS

*“A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.”*

-Proverbs 15:1

Honor is the vehicle that brings us before kings. Your success is determined by the one you honor. Honor opens uncommon doors. Dishonor shuts doors. Honor is a vital key that grants access. The way you approach others is either your entry point to favor or exit from it. Pastor Joel Osteen said, ‘Treat everyone you come across as a gatekeeper to your destiny. Gatekeepers are ordinary people who can open extra-ordinary doors.’

One of the values I was raised with was the culture of honor. I was taught to place morality over my ambition. I knew that the way I treat other people would determine my place in life. The blessing of favor responds to good character. Speak with wisdom. Your words should be a healing spring in the heart of others.

Life becomes a blessing when you recognize the people around you as an inseparable part of your journey. A meek heart penetrates the palace of kings. That was how Joseph, Daniel and Nehemiah ruled in strange lands.

Approach speaks volumes. Every character carries its own reward. The way you present your intents reveal your personality. And that is how people also define you. Treat others with respect. Your silent thoughts, words and actions come together to determine what you draw from life.

*“Pride shuts doors.”*



## CHAPTER FOURTY-EIGHT

### POLLUTION

*“The target of sin is your destiny.”*

Every agenda of hell is targeted towards your divine purpose. Since the devil lost his place before God, he vowed to come after His seed, you.

You are being equipped to bless the nations of the world. What you carry in your spirit is for countless generations. You are a blessing to your world. That means the lives of so many people are connected to you. You are the institution being built by God to hold the future of so many broken people. You are someone’s pillar of hope. God invested that much inside of

you. You are therefore on the target list of the enemy.

Samson was an uncommon child whose birth was announced by the angel. He was sent to deliver God's people from the hands of their adversary. The enemy saw the divine investments in his life and sent Delilah to stop him. The enemy used the very thing he loved to destroy him. The devil knows your level!

Solomon was the wisest and wealthiest man of his time. God granted him favor and peace during his reign. But the moment his heart turned to strange women and their gods, he lost his place.

*“Your ungodly desire is a pointer to your destruction.”*

Purity is powerful. Sin contaminates glory. Righteousness commands favor. The oil of favor draws people towards you. But the moment you begin to live in iniquity the same glory will be lifted off your life. Shame is the opposite of glory. Sin brings shame.

*“There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil. And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters. His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east.”*

- Job 1:1-3

You must fight to protect your place in God because that determines your destiny in life. The moment you stain your garment with iniquity, your glory will begin to fade. The crowd may still clap for you but in the spirit realm you are already displaced. Guard your heart, watch your words and line up your steps according to God's instructions.

*“What you carry within you does not belong to you, it is for your generation.”*



## CHAPTER FORTY-NINE

### PARTNER

*“Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”*

-Amos 3:3

When you meet the person ordained for you something comes alive inside of you; there is a connection in your soul with the person. This goes beyond emotional feelings. It is a bond stronger than the fleeting emotion of a moment. The spirit of the person will simply arrest you.

The instant Adam saw Eve he said, ‘this is now bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh.’ He sensed a strong connection because she was drawn out of him. Isaac felt the same way when he set his eyes on Rebecca.

Relationships span beyond the pleasure of a moment. A wrong choice of a life partner can mar one's entire journey on earth. God places a priority on relationship. It has to be a covenant and not a contract. When two people come together they become one. This unity of spirit sets a stage for the pursuit of a greater course. Casual people cannot hold a covenant relationship. Be intentional with your choices in life!

It is at the core of your being that you truly unit with your mate. The union must carry the destiny of generations coming ahead. To attain certain heights in life you need a partner that sees what you see. Your individual vision and passion must correlate. You both can't be hearing different sounds. Your vision must be one and indivisible. Don't marry a stranger. Samson chose Delilah and lost his glory. Delilah was a strange woman sent to bring him down. Abraham chose Sarah and attained the father of nations. Boaz met Ruth and they both ushered the Savior into the world.

Find the freedom of expression to build a mutual voice. Communication creates bonding. A relationship void of communication is vulnerable to external contamination. Give no room for competition or comparison. You are meant to complement each other, not to compete with each other. One will chase a thousand but two will chase ten thousand.

I pray you find a life partner who genuinely wants to please God when nobody is looking. It's a great blessing to live the rest of your life with an authentic person who chases hard after God. When you find this true person life becomes a beautiful garden. Make a written commitment to stay consecrated for a covenant marriage. Set boundaries before marriage. Keep it pure. It's easy to identify the will of God when you observe purity in a relationship. Let God reveal Himself to you in the

process. Find your purpose and your purpose will find your partner.

You must be intentional with your choices. It requires utmost spiritual caution. The devil doesn't destroy nations, he only destroys marriages. Broken marriages produce broken nations. Pray, fast and observe. Get confirmation and conviction in your spirit before you step out. The moment you put your emotions ahead you will miss the voice of God. Your spirit must go ahead of your flesh.

Share your ideas, values and visions. Nothing should be left to assumption. Whatever you cannot share with your partner is questionable. The Bible said that Adam and Eve were naked, and not ashamed. That speaks of openness. Honesty and faithfulness will keep you transparent. Avoid lies, secrecy and third parties in your relationship. You only build trust by being open to one another. Pray together and play together. Finally, stay under godly counsel. Your life partner is your best friend!

*“Communication cures suspicion and confusion.”*





## CHAPTER FIFTY

### PACKAGING

*“The first impression could be the last impression.”*

The society responds to you the way you present yourself. Great companies know how to strategically profit by the way they showcase their staff and products to the public.

Joseph was to stand before Pharaoh and interpret his dream. But the King requested for him to be shaved and cleaned up first. His prison garment was removed and he was given new attire. Joseph had the gift of God on his life but he could not operate in it looking untidy. The same approach was repeated with the prodigal son. When he returned home his father in-

structed his servants to dress him up in new apparel. Esther was given a total makeover before she appeared before the king. Casual people can't stand before royalty.

*“Don't underestimate the power of self-image.”*

We are destined to touch lives but there is a need for us to be refined for this mission. Great organizations that stand out today embrace the need for packaging. They rebrand and upgrade their products occasionally to captivate the public. They send their workers for more training as to meet up with the demands of their customers.

Excellence requires consistent upgrade. We cannot be myopic in a dynamic world. The tide has changed; we must reinvent our ideas. The stereotype does not bring change in our present world. Your dress code should reflect your mission. Present yourself smartly. Be bold. Stand tall and keep your head up!

*“A great gift can die in a rusty package.”*



## CHAPTER FIFTY-ONE

### POSITION

*“Purpose gives value to position.”*

Leadership is positive influence. People who chase after recognition often lose their influence.

Sacrifice defines true leaders. Leaders lay down their lives for their generation. Think of men like Abraham Lincoln, Nelson Mandela, Mother Theresa, Martin Luther King and John F. Kennedy. Each of these people denied themselves temporary gratifications to change their world. They knew that purpose is stronger than position. Sacrifice is the soul of leadership.

Uncommon leaders create exceptional atmospheres around

them that define their purpose. The ministry of Jesus Christ and John the Baptist were located in the desert. They both attracted astonishing crowds from the city. The supernatural goes wherever they located themselves. Anointing flows towards them. Even the high priests went out there to hear them teach. Your position has nothing to do with the power on your life.

Your greatness is inherently within you. You have no need to fight for position anywhere. If you are good the mantle of leadership will be dropped on your lap. Don't fight for it. Don't try to put people down to get your desire. No. The crown came to David while his father was playing tricks on Samuel. Joseph was sent for from the prison. Daniel was recommended by the queen. Keep your skills sharpened. Your character must be stronger than your gift. It's dangerous to be gifted without character.

Spend quality time in God's presence. That is where the flesh dies so your spirit can come alive. It is through the renewed spirit that we bring transformation in our world. Value is within!

*“Visionary leadership is people oriented.”*



## CHAPTER FIFTY-TWO

### POSTERITY

*“Life begins after death.”*

Legacy is the mark you leave behind when you leave this world. Your words and actions send an echo that will someday be heard in your absence. There is a craving in everyone to make a difference. But not everyone is remembered long after they die. Legacy is the memory you create in people. It is the voice that represents you.

The best legacy to leave for your generation is an undisputable moral value. The Bible says that a good man leaves a spiritual inheritance for his third generation. The strong moral standard you set today remains a foundation for your generation to stand on. Your good deeds trigger a perpetual grace

that can carry your generation.

Righteousness sets the pace for the transformation of every generation. The Bible says that righteousness exalts a nation but sin is a reproach to every nation. One person with the right vision can change the world. Abraham entered into a relationship with God that is still speaking thousands of years after his death. There is a divine ability on the inside of you to alter history. You can't afford to die with your voice trapped inside of you. You were sent here to be heard!

*“A seed shall serve him; it shall be accounted to the Lord for a generation. They shall come, and shall declare his righteousness unto a people that shall be born, that he hath done this.”*

-Psalm 22:30-31



## CHAPTER FIFTY-THREE

### PRAISE

*“Gratitude is the seed for more.”*

Grateful people are fruitful people. Praise unlocks the heart of God. The wall of Jericho was brought down by the sound of praise. The children of Israel sang their way through the red sea. Paul and Silas broke the prison chains with the sound of praise. Praise is the key for exploits. Praise unlocks the heart of God and releases His manifold blessings. Praise brings down the person of God into our situation.

Praise is the key to glory. When you engage in praise the heavens open up and blessings come down. Where praise is lacking there is emptiness and dryness. Praise is the vehicle that ushers you into the presence of divinity. God releases Himself

wherever He senses praise. Prayer brings down the presence of God while praise brings down The Person of God.

Praise is an expression of an inner felt gratitude. King David was not ashamed to dance before the Lord. The Bible records he was stripped off his royal garment expressing himself before the Almighty. When the Ark of covenant was brought back to his land, he welcomed it with joyful celebration. David won the heart of God through the sound of praise.

God has placed so much regard on praise. A grateful person will never go down. Men and women that show appreciation enjoy continuous lifting. David waxed strong on every side because he was a praising king. His reign spanned into generations. Even Jesus Christ was addressed as ‘The Son of David.’ Appreciation never leaves you depreciated.

*“If you are not grateful you are a great fool.”*





## CHAPTER FIFTY-FOUR

### PRAYER

*“Divine secrets are revealed in the secret place.”*

The prayer altar is the covenant place where we find God’s divine agenda for our lives. The mind of God is revealed in the secret place. Every successful step I’ve taken so far in my life was because of an insight I received in my secret place. My prayer altar is the most important aspect of my life.

*“As I was in the days of my youth, when the secret of God was upon my tabernacle.”*

-Job 29:4

You enjoy supernatural encounters in your life as you observe a consistent prayer routine. If you are still doubting God’s

presence over your life I suggest you build a prayer altar. God appears to us at the prayer altar. I observe my prayer time first thing in the morning. God has always revealed amazing secrets to me in this holy place.

The altar of prayer and communion is where you bond with God. God craves to commune with you. The picture of your future is released on the altar of prayer. Every mountain is permitted to remain until the force of prayer is applied. A praying Christian is not just a powerful person but also a purposeful one. You cannot go wrong when the voice of God is leading your every step. He gives you details to your destiny. No guess work in God!

You uncover hidden secrets in the secret place of prayer. The Bible says, ‘ask me and I will tell you some remarkable secrets about what is going to happen here.’ So God only reveals Himself when we dare to raise an altar. I received the divine revelations that birth this book on the altar of prayer. You can only avoid errors by going to the secret place to receive divine direction.

Moses went up to the mountain to be with God for forty days. His face was radiant when he came down. Every man’s destiny takes a new look in the atmosphere of prayer. God craves to hear our voice on a daily basis. Every father enjoys the time he spends talking with his children. That is always the perfect time for impartation. You become more like God as you spend quality time with Him. His personality and glory rub off on you.

*“We bond with God in the secret place.”*

God is not vague. He is accurate. Whatever you don’t receive on the platform of prayer will die a natural death. God is only

committed to preserve what He gave you. Anything birth on the prayer altar survives the test of time.

Abraham produced nations through prayer. Noah saved his household through prayer. Paul and Silas broke prison chains through prayer. Jabez changed reversed the curse placed on his life by the force of prayer. Time will fail me to go on and tell you of men and women who discovered empires, shut the mouth of lions, shifted times and seasons, and ruled in the camp of their enemies through the weapon of prayers. You are turned into another man in the prayer room.

There are two factors I want to point out on the subject of prayers. One is Faith and the other is Forgiveness. Faith is the title deed of our divine promise. Faith is the opposite of fear. Mountains obey the voice of faith. Put your faith to work when you pray. You can develop your faith by reading God's Word and other anointed materials. Faith makes you one with God.

*“The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him;  
and he will shew them his covenant.”*

-Psalm 25:14

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