

**DISCOVERING
THE CHAMPION
IN YOU**

DISCOVERING THE CHAMPION IN YOU

*Overcoming Limitations
to Greatness*

RICHARD MUWANGUZI

DISCOVERING THE CHAMPION IN YOU

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by

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All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the Holy Bible. Where Versions of the Bible are used as an abbreviation the following shall mean

KJV : King James Version

NIV : New International Version

NKJV : New King James Version

NLT : New Living Translation

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Dedication



This book is dedicated to my beautiful, Fantastic, Awesome, Breathtaking Wife; Mrs. **Martha Muwanguzi** and my children **Janny, Jeremie and Jesse (Muwanguzi)**.

I also dedicate this book to my siblings; Jude, Kevin and Becky.

Worthy to dedicate this book is to Kingdom Glory Faith Ministries Family.

Acknowledgment

Ideas come from many source streams to form the mighty torrent of knowledge which flows on and on through history, giving sustenance and power to all those who partake of her waters. Here are some of those who contributed to the amalgamation of ideas you will find in this book:

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I feel indebted to my Kingdom destiny partners; Janny, Drew, Matt and Bronwyn for always encouraging me to press on. I don't think Kingdom Glory Faith Ministries and this book would have become a reality if it were not of your enthusiasm, passion and credence in my work.

Last- but far from least- is my sincere appreciation to my beautiful, fantastic, awesome, breathtaking wife; Martha Muwanguzi, for the encouragement and personal aid in checking the manuscript for errors. Thank you so much indeed.

Foreword



Richard has written a message that I think is key for many young people and older people in Uganda and across the globe. In a world where people are continually easily giving up on their dreams because they have encountered hardship, this is a call to dream again and never give up.

Richard communicates his own life story here of perseverance and overcoming odds, a story which is an inspiration to all of us. Be prepared to be inspired to dream again for indeed we are all champions if we decide to step out in faith and never to give up.

Peter J. Wamono
Lead Pastor - Musaale Church

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Chapter 1



Who is a Champion?

Before we embark on our journey of victory, success and breakthrough in the realm of championship, let us take time to understand who a champion is since we have lost many champions who are also trying to look for champions.

When we talk of champions, these are ordinary people who saw a cause amidst challenges and refused to settle for status quo, they refused to settle for anything less than victory. They are not people who have never failed, but people who negated to stay on the platform of failure. They are people who might have failed many times but focus their eyes on the trophies in the empires of victory. They do not count the times of failure, but they learn from their failure to have a well-planned and strategic comeback and retaliation with more tenacity (stubbornness, firmness, persistence, determination and courage).

Champions are people who are admired for having done something brave or having achieved something great. Champions are always dreamers. In my surveillance since time cenotaph, I have come to a deduction that the world is governed by champions and not victims.

Champions are ordinary people who do extra ordinary things in an extra ordinary way. It is these ordinary things which are done in an extraordinary way that make a difference and bring them into halls and manors of fame. Where Victims see problems, champions see potential; victims see plight (dilemma, difficulty or limitation) of men, champions see the power of God; victims see barriers, champions see bearings or directions and opportunities. Where victims see buffeting or rocks and limitations, champions see blessings in disguise. Where victims see failure in every opportunity; champions see supernatural; victims see things visible, champions see things invisible; victims see things as they are, champions see things as they could be; victims see dangers, champions see opportunities; victims see dead end, champions see a new beginning.

Champions don't stay stagnant. They keep on moving, they are dynamic ordinary people who go anywhere as long as it is forward; they always communicate optimism and hope, they do not just quit. And I think this one statement defines my whole life. I have always believed nothing is impossible. You are not a failure if you are defeated; you are a failure if you quit. As a matter of fact, this book was born when I was going through a stormy time at that moment. Much of the content in this book is my real experience with the

reality of life. Champions are not stopped by finite or limited disappointments. They never lose hope and have an insatiable appetite for knowledge.

This book is written for the “normal” person who wishes to exceed the norm. It is for the “ordinary” individual who has determined to be “extra-ordinary.” It is for the individual just like you who knows that somewhere deep inside, there is still so much you have not released: so much yet to do, so much left to expose, so much to maximize.

.....
***Champions are not people who have never failed,
but people who negated to stay on the platform of
failure.***
.....

Live life with all your potency; give it all you have. Do it until there is nothing left to do because you have become all you were created to be, done all you were designed to do, and given all you were propelled to give. Be satisfied with nothing less than your best. That is the spirit of championship.

How sad to know that the majority of the people on this planet will never discover who they really are, while others will settle for only a percentage of their true self. Only a selected few will make the quality decision to exploit every fortitude and resilience of their lives by fully using their gifts, talents, abilities, and capabilities. This is what I call supreme living. Each one of us has the opportunity to pursue maximum (All-out, Supreme, superlative) living. The question is; Will we choose to exercise that option?

Living to the maximum challenges us all because much of our environment is not conducive to this detection. Whether in America, Asia, Africa, England, Australia, there are traditions, norms, social expectations, customs, and value systems that impact, shape, mold, suppress, control, and in some cases, oppress the natural gifts, talents, capabilities, and potential of its members. This process starts even from the beginning of life. Even a newborn infant receives inconspicuous and minimalist messages of community expectations from parents, siblings, and other family members that in many cases suffocate and limit the child's awesome latent potential. Am I right?

Potential screams for release in the soul of every human being who enters this planet. Every individual is a living treasure torso. Each person arrives like a brand-new product from a manufacturer, equipped to perform and fulfill all the demands placed on him by the Creator. This is the reason why the natural predisposition and penchant to dream is so pervasive in children. When my daughter Janny made one year, I would always watch her smiling unfathomably, even in her sleep. This to me, showed those gigantic dreams that would one day come to reality. I have always confessed that one day, I am going to fly around the world with her, transforming millions of lives. She is going to be my Personal aeronautical squad girl. And I can always hear her nod in agreement saying; "Yes Daddy".

Most people live at minimum performance, willing to do only what is necessary to survive. They live to get by, not to get ahead in life. They maintain the status quo instead of

raising the standard in life. They do only what is required and expected.

What a sad and depressing way to live! I challenge you reading this book, to step away from the crowd of those who maintain and join the few of us who are committed to attaining our full potential by endeavoring to maximize our abilities. After all, who else can live your life but you? Who can fully represent and epitomize you except you? I admonish you to discover, excavate, disinter, extract yourself and share your treasure with the world. The fact that you are reading this book is a proof of what I am talking about.

Purpose determines potential

It is an acknowledged datum that every manufacturer designs his product to fulfill a specific purpose and equips it with the necessary machineries and ability to function according to that purpose. Therefore, the potential of a product is determined and established by the purpose for which the manufacturer made it. This very same principle is inherent and innate throughout creation. The Master Creator and Designer established His purpose for each item in creation and built into each the ability or potential to perform and fulfill that purpose or assignment.

For instance, the purpose for seeds is to produce plants; therefore, by design, all seeds possess the ability and potential to produce plants. This ability to reproduce does not, however, guarantee that the seed will produce a plant. This is

the tragedy of nature. The destruction of a seed is in essence the termination of a forest. Think about that!

This principle can be applied to all God's created beings. For example, your life is a result of a purpose in the mind of God that requires your existence. You were created because there is something God wants done that demands your presence on this planet. You were designed, calculated, planned, premeditated and forwarded here for destiny. This destiny and purpose is also the key to your aptitude. You were created with the inherent abilities, talents, gifts, and proclivities to fulfill this purpose. Just as a bird is designed to fly, a fish to swim, and an apple tree to bear fruit, even so you hold the potential to be all you were born to be. Here is the blue print: your life has the potential to fulfill your purpose.

You, and every other individual, around the world, possess the responsibility for this awesome treasure buried within, because this treasure within you can be fully released only if you are willing to believe and accept God's dream for your life. If you are willing to submit to His will and purpose for your destiny and to cooperate with His specifications, nothing will be impossible for you. I can guarantee you that.

Determine not to be satisfied with anything less than the full accomplishment of your dream. Surrender to the demands that maximize your potential so that none of your assignment is left undone when you leave this planet. The responsibility to use what God has stored within you is yours alone.

Many individuals are aware of their ability and potential,

but they have become frustrated and cynical by either their past failures or the negative influence of others. They have chosen to limit or withhold the wonderful gift the Creator has invested in them. Therefore, I strongly urge you to rise up from your temporary fears, shake yourself, and step out once again on the road to being and becoming your true self. Leave your past where it belongs; in the past.

.....
***The potential of a product is determined and
established by the purpose for which the
manufacturer made it.***
.....

Championship is not a project but a journey. The spirit of championship is channeled by the concept that success is an installment plan on which we make daily payments until we exploit ourselves. This success begins when we understand and accept that life is a process of growing and developing. Thus, life is meant to be a never-ending education, a journey of discovery and adventure, an exploration into our God-given potential for His glory.

Man is like an onion. His potential is exposed one layer at a time until all he is, is known by all.

Principles

- Champions are people who might have failed many times but focus their eyes on the trophies in the empires of victory.
- They are people who are admired for having done something brave or having achieved something great.
- Champions don't stay stagnant. They keep on moving, they are dynamic ordinary people who go anywhere as long as it is forward.
- Live life with all your potency; give it all you have. Do it until there is nothing left to do because you have become all you were created to be.
- Potential screams for release in the soul of every human being who enters this planet.
- The potential of a product is determined and established by the purpose for which the manufacturer made it.
- Championship is not a project but a journey.
- Man is like an onion. His potential is exposed one layer at a time until all he is, is known by all.

Chapter 2



The Spirit of Champions

Here, the word spirit is interpreted as attitude, a mental state or mentality. Men and women who are mastered by this attitude of championship celebrate virtues and disciplines which others neglect and become victims in life. We want to see some of these virtues and disciplines.

1. Commitment

Men and women who have respected and celebrated the virtue of commitment have ended up becoming icons in the world. Commitment has a way of bringing out the best of us than any other known virtue. Halfhearted and lackadaisical commitment can never bring out full results. When we get committed to anything, all our mental and physical faculties release energy that is burned in our inner life to bring the most excellent work in all we do.

A person with a champion's spirit is always committed to a project. While our strength and abilities make us useful, it is our weaknesses that make us usable. Our skills and talents make us tools, but our failures and short comings remind us that we need a craftsman in control of our lives.

And I think this virtue is so animated in regards to marriage. I have seen some of the most exasperating situations in most marriages on the rock, almost crumbling because of ignorance. Listen! When a male demands, a female reacts; she doesn't respond. When a male gives, a female responds. When a male commits, a female submits. Nothing is more precious to a female than a committed male. Nothing is no more depressing to a female than an uncommitted male. Here's the clandestine, guys: If you want a submitted female, be a committed male. It's that simple. No more and no less.

The reason as to why I have the most submissive wife in the world is that, one statement up there. And she knows that very well. When a male abuses, a female refuses. Whenever a man abuses a woman, she refuses to respond. When a male shares, a female cares. If you find a man who is willing to share with the woman in his life, you will find a woman who is willing to care for her man. When a male leads, a female follows.

.....
***While our strength and abilities make us useful, it
is our weaknesses that make us usable.***
.....

When a man carries out his God-given responsibility for

leadership, a woman responds by following his lead. Leadership does not mean being bossy, always telling others what to do, controlling and manipulating others. No, leadership means going ahead, not putting others in the front. Good leaders lead by example, not by decree. Jesus led by example, and so did Moses, Peter, Paul, and all the other great leaders in the Bible. Leading by example means doing ourselves the things we wish others to do.

Every person is either a creator of fact or a creature of circumstance. Don't choose the latter. Go with the former. Be committed to whatever you are doing and life will submit to you.

2. Diligence

Proverbs 22:29 “Do you see a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before unknown men.”

This is the ability to work hard and smart with maximum, careful and thorough accomplishment. When someone is diligent, they do not just give up on the way, they are careful to details, they eliminate losses and wastage of time. Such persons increase the rate of productivity in any corporation or project.

Champions achieve more with their diligent working than any talented person would do.

3. Time

This is one of the most precious commodities of life that nature gives to everyone equally. It determines the kind of life that we live. Those that waste it have great moments of regret, and those who learn to invest it enjoy life to the maximum. It is mainly invested in preparation and finally performances. In all that we want to see in life, what you do not give time, you will never harvest in it.

Champions often give quality time to their work, while victims waste good time with several indulgences. They engage in many unprofitable activities such as rumors and they over do other good activities to their disadvantages such as sleeping, fun time or game time etc. But if you are going to be a champion, you must learn to manage your time. Time does not make you, but it reveals you. Don't forget people are watching, don't waste this time, you will be a reproach to this world if you don't invest your time now.

Life is just a minute-only sixty seconds in it. Forced upon you, can't refuse it, didn't seek it, didn't choose it, but it is up to you to use it. Give an account if you abuse it. Just a little tiny minute, but eternity is in it.

If money is silver, time is gold. If we mismanage our money, we simply try to make more of it. But there is no making any more time. When a moment is gone is gone forever. We can't buy, steal, rent or borrow any further amounts.

.....
***What you do not give time, you will never harvest
in it. Time does not make you, but it reveals you***
.....

Time is an invisible reality created by the eternal God as an automobile in which we can fulfill His will and purpose as we travel through life. Time glides, it is up to you to be the guide. Our stewardship of time is the result of a well-regulated life, one that is about our father's business. The Lord's followers should know better than anyone else how to keep their calendars and clocks, for what they are called to do is greater than anything else. These are biggest wasters of time: Misdirection-doing the wrong things; Laziness-being overcome by lethargy; Entertainment-being addicted to diversions of all sorts.

4. Self-control

2 Tim 1:7 *"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."*

Whoever learns to control self will be a master of all, be it trade, social world, or the spiritual. We have many things that demand for our attention and some of them have instant pleasure but also carry long term consequences. If we are going to be champions, then we must learn the art of self-control.

In the New Testament we are told in **James 1:19-20**

"Understand [this], my beloved brethren. Let every man be quick to hear [a ready listener], slow to speak, slow to take offense and to get angry. For man's anger does not promote the righteousness God [wishes and requires]".

Part of righteousness, or the right way of being what God

wishes and desires, is that we fulfill our potential, and unless we restrain our anger, we will never be able to find fulfillment.

Take Moses, for example. Moses was supposed to lead the Israelites out of Egypt into the Promised Land, but he was denied that privilege by God because he reacted with his unrestrained temper, disobeying God.

We all want to have big ministries, but we don't always want to operate under the guidelines of self-control. We would rather allow our fleshly nature to dictate our lives. If we are ever going to become leaders, we must keep our passions under control. That doesn't mean we have to be perfect or that we can never make mistakes. Although the Holy Spirit will give us power to control our emotions, we may still lose our temper from time to time. But as soon as we do so, we should immediately confess it and repent of it, which means saying, "I'm sorry, God. Forgive me," and then move on.

A disciplined, self-controlled life not only requires time, determination and hard work, it also requires self-denial, which involves putting off our old ways. But the rewards are worth the effort.

Champions practice self-denial, discipline and self-restraint. We don't decide to be ordinary people, but we choose to be champions.

5. Focus

Champions are not the privileged few who become Champions, but those who make the choice to become.

They have to be fully focused, avoid distractions in order to achieve the heights of their fullest potential.

Hebrews 12:1 KJV *“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.”*

This verse tells us that if we are going to run our race, we must lay aside every encumbrance and run the race with fortitude. I have heard this point summarized in this way: Running our race with no hindrances means doffing for the tournament.

In the days when this verse was written, the writer was drawing a parallel that was much better understood than it is today. In those days, runners conditioned their bodies for a race just as we do today. But at the time of the race, they stripped off their clothing so that when they ran, there would be nothing to hinder them. They also oiled their bodies with fine oils.

In the same way, we need to be well oiled or anointed with the Holy Spirit if we are going to win our race. We also need to remove anything from our lives that would impede us in running the race set before us.

There are many different hindrances to running a race. Too many obligations will keep us from developing our potential. Letting other people control us will keep us from developing our potential. Not knowing how to say no will keep us from developing our potential. Getting overly involved in someone else's goals and vision or becoming knotted in someone else's

problems instead of keeping our eyes on our own goals will keep us from fulfilling our potential.

.....

***Running our race with no hindrances means
doffing for the tournament.***

.....

I have discovered that the devil can come up with a thousand ways every week to ensnare me and get me off into something that is going to prevent me from doing what I am supposed to be doing. They all seem like emergencies and predicaments, and it, seems they all have to be handled by me because I am the only one who can do so.

If we are going to do what God has called us to do, we are going to have to stay focused because the world we live in is filled with distractions and entanglements.

We try to read our Bible, and somebody stops by. We try to pray, and the phone rings. There is distraction after distraction. Sooner or later we have to learn to say no. We have to be determined that nothing is going to hinder us from fulfilling God's plan and purpose for us.

Sometimes we may have to engage in a bit of holy anger and say, "No, world! You are not going to do this to me any longer. I am not going to live on this crazy merry-go-round with no way off of it. I know what I am supposed to do, and I am going to do it. If you don't like it, talk to God. He is the One Who put this vision in me, and I am not going to frustrate myself all my life just to please you."

6. Excellence

Excellence is that inward quality to desire the best for every opportunity, coming to a place where you don't settle for yesterday's victory.

In Matthew 25:14 through 29, Jesus went on to tell the story of a man who was going on a long journey, so he called his servants together and gave them different amounts of money to handle, depending upon their abilities.

Note that we do not all have the same talents and abilities. We cannot all do the same things, but we can all be what God has called us individually to be. I cannot be what you are, and you cannot be what I am, but we can each be all that God wants us to be.

When God gave Moses leaders to help him with his task of governing the Israelites, some were to be rulers over thousands, some over hundreds, some over fifties and some over tens.

.....
***Champions are people who pursue excellence,
they do not settle for less but the best***
.....

Not everyone is anointed, or filled with the inner strength of the Holy Spirit, to lead thousands. Some are anointed to lead hundreds or fifties or tens. But whatever you are anointed to do, if you will be obedient to do it, you will find personal fulfillment in it. And as long as you have that sense of personal fulfillment and satisfaction, knowing in your heart

that you are doing what God has called and anointed you to do, you will not have to compare yourself with anybody else; you will not have to be in competition with anyone else. The understanding of this truth saved me a lot from competition. I don't compete with anyone other than myself.

Whatever you are called to do, do it with excellence. Do it in a superior way. If you are called to lead fifty, then be an outstanding leader of fifty. Don't try to lead a thousand because if you do, you will make a fool of yourself. Likewise, if you are called to lead a thousand, don't try to ignore your real call and lead fifty just because you don't want to do the hard work and take the responsibility. If you do, you will never be fulfilled or satisfied.

Champions are people who pursue excellence, they do not settle for less but the best. Remember, People do not pay those who are like them, but they pay those who are better than them. People don't care about victims but people love champions because they stir up everyone that it can be done. The devil has no problem with the weak and feeble people (victims), but he has it with champions.

Principles

- Commitment has a way of bringing out the best of us than any other known virtue.
- While our strength and abilities make us useful, it is our weaknesses that make us usable.

- If you want a submitted female, be a committed male. It's that simple. No more and no less.
- Every person is either a creator of fact or a creature of circumstance.
- Champions achieve more with their diligent working than any talented person would do.
- Time is an invisible reality created by the eternal God as an automobile in which we can fulfill His will and purpose as we travel through life.
- Time glides, it is up to you to be the guide.
- Excellence is that inward quality to desire the best for every opportunity, coming to a place where you don't settle for yesterday's victory.

Chapter 3



Champions are Dreamers

Dreamers are those who can see beyond the obvious; they see the invisible and it gives them zeal and momentum.

The most interesting part is that; champions have a driving force which I call a dream. If you do not have a dream, you are like a ship without a compass whereby it will fail in locating the right direction. Remember that, one step in the wrong direction will frustrate your entire destiny. Therefore, your dream is your compass that is going to give direction to your destiny.

A dream is something in future that will fulfill your hopes and give you great pleasure and satisfaction, no matter what happens. It is that desire to become something or somebody today or tomorrow.

Every successful person in life has got a story to tell, and

their story is more important than their success.

Abraham Lincoln, the former US president once made a statement that changed my life about championship spirit. After being asked how he made it to be the president of the United States; he answered;” I ***succeeded because I learnt how to handle failure*** “Abraham Lincoln had failed several times to vigor through as the US president. He finally made it because he had a driving force behind.

.....
Every successful person in life has got a story to tell, and their story is more important than their success
.....

The difference between successful people and unsuccessful people is the endurance and determination they have within to pursue their desires, leading them to the fulfillment of their dreams. A dream is the truth of who you are in the destiny that awaits you.

Joseph in the Bible was the second last born of Jacob; the Bible teaches that Jacob loved Joseph so much because he had born him in his old age; he made him a tunic of many colors. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than them, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

Now Joseph had a dream, and he told it to his brothers and they hated him even more. Joseph’s dream was too big to accomplish it alone. It required politicians, religious people, foreigners and natives. He might have lost the battle along the

way, but he definitely won the war. When his brothers saw a poor-day dreamer in Joseph and when the Egyptians saw a poor prisoner in him, God saw a powerful prime minister of Egypt; when people saw a barren woman in Sarah, God saw a mother of a great nation, when people saw a young shepherd in David, God saw a mighty King of Israel; when people saw a poor coward in Gideon, God saw a mighty warrior of Israel. I am sure these Biblical champions might have one time gotten discouraged, depressed, disappointed, desperate, lost the battle, and indeed they did, but they finally won the war.

Despite what people see in you, God sees a mighty you. You may be small to the world, but in God's eyes, you are very big and priceless. Do not give up; you may lose the battle, but press on, be determined, endure till the end; you will finally win the war and you will live to tell the world that with God, there is nothing impossible in Jesus' name.

“Your ability needs responsibility to expose its possibilities. Do what you can with what you have where you are”. - Eleanor Roosevelt

The people who are blessings to humanity are usually men and women who decide there is more to them than what other people have said. People who bless the world are people who believe there is an ability inside them to undertake something that has never been done. Though they may not know exactly what they can do, they try because they believe they can achieve something.

Champions are people who begin the journey of success with nothing but themselves. They never fear the future;

they are risk takers. People who always begin have great chances of becoming what they want. You are not deployed until you are doing exactly what you were designed to do. If you are a hammer and you are being used to dig holes, you are employed but not deployed; if you are a hoe and you are being used to drive nails in the wood, you are employed but not deployed; if you are a plane and you are being used as a driller, then you are on employment and not deployment.

What is the difference between employment and deployment? Well, employment is what you are paid to do; deployment is what you were born to do. Employment is your skill; deployment is your gift. Employment is your pre-occupation; deployment is your true-occupation. Employment depends on your ability; deployment depends on your availability. You can be fired from your employment; no one can touch you on your deployment. You can retire from your employment; you can never retire from deployment.

.....
“Your ability needs responsibility to expose its possibilities. Do what you can with what you have where you are”. Eleanor Roosevelt
.....

Down the highways of my great pearl of Africa, I have seen conspicuous young men, who are graduates from powerful Universities, doing unpremeditated and blue-collar toil, selling water on the streets; hawking stuff on the pavements, a job they were never designed for.

Dreamers are beginners

Great things are not begun with great resources or substances. What you have in your hand right now is enough to make you great. When Moses was in the wilderness, tending to the sheep of His father-in-law, God appeared to him in a burning bush. It is interesting that when Moses was complaining about his inability for the great mission ahead, God posed a question: "What is that in your hand?" Beloved, you have something in your hand which can turn your dream and life around. In the journey of being a great man or woman tomorrow; we may be little rats before the giants in the world, but there is a lion inside of us. There is an eagle within you. Outwardly, we are feeble and appear small, but because we know our God, the Bible teaches that we shall carry out great exploits, to the Glory of our God.

The Almighty God, the creator of the universe is the source of your power to carry out the exploits. No matter the needs and demands, champions look beyond their size and find their sources in God. Regardless of their size or position, God is ever bigger than it. People who are resolute and determined, always receive crazy miracles.

The only thing that determines your destiny is your source of Power (God). God does not discriminate people; He uses the little things, two fish and five loaves of bread. Our Father God means the source and sustainer where life begins. God's will, will never lead you where His grace cannot keep you, He will sustain you. If it is His will, then it is His bill. If it is His vision, then it is His provision.

.....
We may be little rats before the giants in the world, but there is a lion inside of us. There is an eagle within us.
.....

My guru; Dr. Myles Munroe, once said; In every seed there is a tree, in every tree there is a forest, in every bird there is a flock, in every fish there is a school, in every sheep there is a flock, in every cow there is a herd, in every boy there is a man, in every girl there is a woman, in every nation there is a generation, in every mind there is an idea. Tragedy strikes when the tree dies in the seed, when the forest dies in the tree, when the school dies in the fish, when the herd dies in the cow, when the man dies in a boy, when the woman dies in a girl, when an idea dies in the mind and when a generation dies in a nation.

Many people have great ideas, but sadly 65% die with their ideas still in their minds. If you want to see how rich people are, go in their graves. They die with their dreams unfulfilled or untouched.

Principles

- Dreamers are those who can see beyond the obvious; they see the invisible and it gives them zeal and momentum.
- Every successful person in life has got a story to tell, and their story is more important than their success.

- Despite what people see in you, God sees a mighty you. You may be small to the world, but in God's eyes, you are very big and priceless.
- "Your ability needs responsibility to expose its possibilities. Do what you can with what you have where you are". - Eleanor Roosevelt
- Champions are people who begin the journey of success with nothing but themselves.
- No matter the needs and demands, champions look beyond their size and find their sources in God
- God does not discriminate people; He uses the little things, two fish and five loaves of bread.
- In every seed there is a tree and in every tree there is a forest. Tragedy strikes when the tree dies in the seed and when the forest dies in the tree.
- The wealthiest spot in the face of the earth is the cemetery.

Chapter 4



Championship and Success

Success is not only achieved by hard work but also by smart work. Hard work precedes smart work; hard work needs more muscles while smart work needs more of your brain. Knowledge is the driving force for smart work.

The fulfillment of your dreams is determined by how smart you move towards your dream. So, we need the coaches, mentors, trainers so that they can give the necessary knowledge and experience.

Therefore, we are going to discuss one of the greatest factors in the realm of success:

The Faith factor

Faith is supreme in mountain moving. Faith, small as a mustard seed, can move an immovable mountain. Faith is the

currency that we use to buy products from the super market of God. Jesus in His sovereignty, while on the earth did a number of Miracles, but it is interesting that He always told His listeners one statement; ‘Your Faith has healed you’.

Faith is what you can present to God to possess your inheritance. Faith is that driving force that enables you to do the impracticalities. Your size is not what is needed; you do not need to be as big as the mountain in order to move it.

Zechariah 4:6-10 “... it is not by force nor by strength, but by my spirit, says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies... do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin...”

Many people believe that to survive in this world, a person needs to be tough, strong, unbending and harsh. No! That is a big gaffe. Be smart. In other words, use more of your brain and have faith. Be faithful in the small opportunities, begin where you are, with what you have and leave the results to God.

Ecclesiastes 11:4 says “Farmers who wait for perfect weather never plant. If they watch every cloud, they never harvest.”

Ecclesiastes 11:4 He who watches the wind shall not sow; and he who pays attention to the clouds shall not reap.

Waiting for perfect conditions will mean inactivity. This practical insight is also applicable to our spiritual lives. If we wait for the perfect time and place for personal Bible study, we will never begin. If we wait for perfect church, we will never join one and if we wait for the perfect ministry, we will never serve. All you have to do is to take a step now. Do not

wait for conditions that may never exist. Faith is not sure of where you are going but going anyway.

Champions do not wait for perfect situations, but they create them; they begin now with the little they have in their hand. I have come to believe that people generally fall into one of three groups: the few who make things happen, the many who watch things happen, and the prodigious majority who have no perception of what happens. Every person is either a creator of fact or a creature of circumstance. He either puts color into his environment, or, like a chameleon, takes color from his environment. Situations are not here to stay, never depend on them in order to begin on your dream, just depend on the word of God. The promises of God are yes and Amen. Faith is believing what God says He will do; He will never fail us as His promises are true. If we receive Him as the Bible teaches, His children we become. Faith is taking the first step even when you do not see the stair case.

.....
***Faith is not sure of where you are going but
going anyway.***
.....

1 John 5:4 “For whatever is born of God overcomes the world.
And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our Faith”

Everything we do without Faith is sin unto God. Faith on the other hand, is a living force that moves the economy and frugality of God. It is the power that causes us to believe what God has promised.

Principles of Success

Joshua 1:8 “This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous and then you will have good success.”

The greatest enemy of success is fear of failure. Success is the potential destiny of all created things. Every seed has a tree in it and the potential success of that tree is in that seed. And that is how you are. Whatever you were born to do and be is in you and the success of your life depends on you becoming all that is trapped inside of you. The most important thing about success is defining it. Here is the definition I felt worked for me down the years.

.....
“Success is the discovery, completion and fulfillment of the original intent or purpose of your existence”
.....

Success is therefore, purpose fulfilled before you die. In the implementation of your life’s purpose, there are certain principles you must obey in order to be successful. These principles govern the execution of every purpose from God regardless of the field. They are universal principles that every product in God’s company must observe. These principles guarantee success in your purpose.

The Principle of overflow

This principle simply states that success in ministry with men is an overflow of success in relationship with God. All men and women in the Bible and in history who had great and lasting impact on humanity for God had a depth of relationship with the manufacturer, God beyond the ordinary.

Abraham was called the friend of God, Jacob had to prevail with God before he could prevail with men, God spoke to Moses face-to-face as a man speaks to a friend, Joshua received divine strategies as he communed with God, David was a man after God's heart, John was a lover of His presence, Abel worshiped God, Enoch walked with God, Noah worked with God, the list is endless. Their effective ministries to men were overflows of their deep personal encounters with God. Because God knew them and they knew Him, He could trust them with much.

.....
***Success in ministry with men is an overflow of
success in relationship with God.***
.....

If we desire a lasting ministry of impact, then we should not ignore this principle. You cannot give what you don't have. (*Acts 3:6*). Until God has reached you, you cannot reach anyone. Until He has touched you, you cannot touch anyone. The things you have not seen, touched, nor handled, you can't impart to others. (*1 John 1:1,3*).

God calls us to Himself before He sends us out to others.

(*Mark 6:7*). Your ministry is a by-product of your relationship with God-this is the first principle. Obey it. Get in His presence. He wants to sense our presence before we sense His. Commit in pursuing quality fellowship with Him, investing time in prayer and searching His Word. His impact on your life will overflow to nations and generations after you.

The Principle of Faith

This is a very significant principle. I am looking forward to writing another whole book on this principle; Faith. This principle is not just a principle of ministry but the principle of life itself. **Hebrews 10:38**; “*The Just shall live by Faith...*” So faith is the way of life of a believer. Faith is our lifeline, without it, God is not pleased and without it, don’t expect any exploit in your ministry.

Whatever you were born to be and do (Purpose) in your ministry will have to be appropriated by Faith. Faith is what translates heavenly realities into earthly tangibles. Faith makes everything work.

Without Faith, prayers are empty words. (**Mark 11:23-24**), access to the divine resources of grace is impossible (**Romans 5:1-2**), there is no victory (**1 John 5:4**), the fiery arrows of the enemy hit their targets (**Ephesians 6:16**) and even salvation is impossible (**Ephesians 2:8**). Faith is the currency of heaven.

Your destiny is a promise and Faith is what delivers those promises to you.

Beloved, your level of impact in your purpose is “*According to your faith.*”

.....
***Faith is our lifeline, without it, God is not
pleased and without it, don't expect any exploit
in your ministry***
.....

***How do you engage this principle in your
purpose?***

First, you have to build faith and faith is not built by praying and fasting, not by giving, not by having a lot of love, not by speaking in tongues but simple; by hearing the Word of God. (***Romans 10:17***). God's Word is pregnant with faith and so when you give it attention by hearing it enough, it will impregnate you with living faith and you will have good success in your purpose.

Secondly, faith must be released through corresponding actions, by doing what God's Word says with confident expectation that you have what it promises and this release of faith will then cause things to move from the unseen realm into seen. The last six letters of the word "*satisfaction*" read 'action'. The word 'satis' is a Latin word that means 'enough'. Blending the two means that to have "*satisfaction*" in your purpose, you need 'enough actions' in pursuing it.

Faith is your weapon of success in your purpose. It is your access to your promised destiny. Go for it. Study more about it. Build it and keep it released. I guarantee you that God will honor your confidence in Him.

The Principle of Followership.

Followership is the capacity or willingness to follow another person. It is the culture of allowing yourself to be led. Of course it is not a popular concept because it implies being behind or below some other person. Most people get excited about leadership because it puts you in front and in command, but do you know that, if you want to be a great leader, you must first become great follower?

The greatest leaders are the best followers and true leadership always begins by following. Joshua was the follower of Moses, Elisha followed Elijah, Timothy followed Paul and the early apostles followed Jesus. (*Matthew 4:19-20*). Jesus, the greatest of all leaders followed His father, to the point of death. He even subjected Himself to follow John the Baptist as His forerunner. A purpose, void of influence is a failure, because it does not influence anyone. I will say it again; to be a great leader you must be a great follower.

.....
***If you want to be a great leader, you must first
become great follower?***
.....

There is a proverb in my language that says; Fire is a good servant but a bad master. Every form of power must have control or else it becomes a danger to those exposed to its influence. There is no self-made person. Every person is a product of others. If you want to be a reference in your ministry, then you must have references. If you aspire to

be a great teacher, you must remain a dedicated student. If you want to be a role model, then you must follow some model. The legitimacy of your leadership is rooted in your followership.

The only person who is preeminent is God. He is the one who did not begin when the beginning began but He began before the beginning began and so the beginning began when He began it. He existed before the existence existed and the existence had its own existence in Him. This is very important to understand! Lucifer failed to obey this principle and so he ended up as the scum of creation. He was sacked from the company because of insubordination. He wanted to arrest the boss. He dislocated himself and in pride chose to personally remove himself from following God. Therefore, he is an unemployed cherub. Now, he has to follow even little children who wield the name of Jesus. This is a tragedy of pride.

Mentorship is a corollary of the principle of followership. Everyone who will be successful in his/ her purpose must have models and mentors. A mentor is a wise trusted counselor or teacher. He is someone who trains a person with lesser experience or knowledge than him. Mentors are God's gift to your purpose on earth.

Having a mentor provides you with a model of what you could be or even exceed. It exposes you to a higher level of accomplishment and wisdom. It is protective because you have access to wise counsels that can save you from making

costly mistakes.

All the great people I have met and read about always point to someone ahead of them that they follow. Behind every Timothy, there is Paul; behind every Esther, there is Mordecai; behind every Moses, there is Jethro. I thank God for the mentors He walked in my life down the ages. The following have been exceptional; Bishop Joseph Muli, Rev. Billah Mutonyi, Rev. Michael Mugamba, my mother Alice Namataka and my late father, Mr. James Masaba. Thank you so much for making the accomplishment of my life's purpose realizable through your prayers, guidance, support and corrections. Thumb up!

Lastly, on this principle, is to be an untiring student. There is nothing new under the sun. Every challenge you are facing now or will face in future has already been faced and documented by someone. The knowledge you need for the next level in your purpose is already in a particular book or resource somewhere.

.....
***Anyone that will make an impact in the world
must be a student of those who have gone ahead.***
.....

Seek out those books and resources. Be an addicted student. Study the work of others. Read books voraciously. Readers are leaders and leaders are readers. Anyone that will make an impact in the world must be a student of those who have gone ahead.

Jesus demonstrated this at age twelve when He was with

the doctors and teachers in the temple asking them questions. It is those who ask questions that become answers. It is seekers of knowledge that are eventually sought out. Go ahead. Stock up your library, like I did and immerse yourself in the study of great works. I guarantee you that success will rub off on you and you will find satisfaction in your purpose.

The Principle of Integrity

The strength and foundation of ministry is integrity. Integrity is the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles. A minister without integrity is going nowhere. Without integrity, there is no ascension to the highest levels of God's purpose for your life. (*Psalms 24:3, 4*).

Many mighty men and women of God have fallen because of a lack of integrity. Great companies have collapsed because they were compromised.

***Isaiah 52:11**” Depart ye, depart ye, go ye out from thence, touch no unclean [thing]; go ye out of the midst of her; be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the LORD.”*

What are these untouchables? Someone said, “We must not touch His Glory, His girls or His gold!” These symbolize pride, sexual and financial improprieties. These three draggers have struck more ministers than can be counted. If we are going to be successful in pursuit of our purpose, we must keep our ministry pure in every way. Our integrity is seen in who we are when no one is looking.

A man hunted jobs for many years but couldn't find one.

So he decided to become a taxi driver to at least feed himself with his poor wife. One day, he carried a woman from the airport to a hotel and the woman forgot her purse in the man's taxi. The taxi man found a number, called it and it was the woman that answered the phone. The woman told him where to meet her and the taxi driver met her there and gave her purse back to her with everything intact. The woman was so happy because her international passport and return air ticket were in that purse, so she was full of happiness. Surprisingly, she was a manager in an oil company so she employed the taxi driver immediately. Today, the taxi driver has fleets of cars and his own personal driver. That is the reward of integrity.

.....
***Our integrity is seen in who we are when no one
is looking***
.....

God extends His grace, developing our characters if we let Him. The fruit of the Spirit enumerated by Paul in ***Galatians 5:16,17, 22-23*** are the contents of Character. Fruits grow. As we commit ourselves to God and allow His spirit to mold us, these traits will begin to grow in our lives and find expression in our affairs. The more this happens, the greater the likelihood of success in our purpose.

The Principle of Sacrifice

Sacrifice is the forfeiture of something highly valued for the sake of one considered having a greater value or claiming. As a student in my high school, I used to give up sleep in hope

of becoming a star in final national examinations; Athletes give up certain things in order to prepare for the competition with the hope of winning a medal. That is what I call sacrifice.

Your purpose comes with a sacrifice too. The rich young man was told to sell his treasures. The family man was told to let the dead bury their dead. Jesus was clearly telling these guys that their purpose or call or vision will cost them something. It would of course pay more, but at the outset, some sacrifice will be required.

.....
***Ministry that costs nothing accomplishes nothing.
You have to give up somethings, to go up. The
greatest generals are the ones with the most scars***
.....

The purpose of God on your life will sometimes be costly, inconvenient and demanding. It will ask for something you treasure before it releases its treasures to you. Often in trying to fulfill your purpose of existence, you will have to miss something. You will have to miss fighting, you will have to miss quarreling, and you will have to miss the youthful pleasures of this world and many others.

In fulfilling your life assignment, you will also have to leave something. Abraham had to leave his country and relatives. Moses had to forsake the pleasure of being the prince of Egypt, to suffer affliction with God's people in the wilderness. Jesus left the glories of heaven and made himself of no reputation. Peter and other apostles left their homes and

vocations. I left my job as well.

Ministry that costs nothing accomplishes nothing. The measure of a ministry consists of the sacrifice made to carry it out. There can be no life without death; no fruit without seed. You have to give up, to go up. The greatest generals are the ones with the most scars. So brace up yourself to give everything you have got into your call. Be diligent, beloved. Work hard. There is no substitute for hard work and there is no success for laziness. The word '*work*' here means to '*to become*'. Work hard '*to become*' what you were born '*to be*'. Labor in God's grace. There is a reward on the other side of sacrifice. *Mark 10:28-30.*

.....
***You will never walk on water unless you leave
the boat.***
.....

In fulfilling your purpose, it may require you to get out of the boat where life is comfortable. It may ask for your accomplishments and degrees; your personal plans and ambitions. It may demand your finances and possessions. It requires a substantial input of your time and energy. Give it whatever it demands. Your inputs are seeds and according to God's law, seed-time is always followed by harvest time. Remember this! You will never walk on water unless you leave the boat.

The Principle of Focus

In order to be successful in your purpose, you must be a person of one pursuit. The connotation is; you need to be a single-minded person, focused on your life assignment.

Matthew 4:18-19 *“And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he says unto them, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”*

Before Peter met Jesus or rather Jesus meeting him, he was a fisherman. Then he received Jesus’ call to leave everything and follow Him. He left everything in order to pursue his purpose. He made it his one focus. I am aware that you will have many roles and responsibilities to play in life, but your eyes should be fixed on your life’s purpose. Everything in life must fit into that purpose or the reason for your existence. Your focus must be to please the one who enlisted you into His army.

2 Timothy 2:4 *“No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of [this] life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.”*

After discovering your reason of your existence, don’t look back or around. Whatever lies ahead of you and behind you are tiny matters compared to what lies within you. The future of your purpose is not ahead of you but is trapped inside you. *Philippians 3:12-14*

There are many distractions on the path of purpose, many

of them legitimate. You will have plenty of opportunities to deviate, to do other things instead of what you were born to do. But you will need to set your face like a flint. Refuse to be moved off the way. Your purpose in life requires your complete focus.

The Principle of Specialization

This principle says that there is a pattern of God for every divine purpose and building according to that pattern will ensure His unreserved backing. The aligned you are with Him in your pursuit, the more of His blessings you will see in your ministry. *Exodus 25:40*

God's pattern of your purpose is very unique. Of course you can be inspired by others and motivated by what they are doing or have done, however, you cannot just copy everything you see others doing. Life is the most difficult exam. Everyone is trying to copy the other not realizing that everyone has a different question paper. God's army is ordered with everyone having their places and unique assignment. *Joel 2:7*

Find your level and be positioned there. Crossing lanes in the race leads to disqualification. Intrusion in a purpose that is not yours is demising. *1 Samuel 13:11-14*

God is a God of decency and order. Combat doing things as convenient and do things as commanded.

The Principle of the Word

Every product from any company comes along with the manufacturers' manual. The manual is the maker's mind on paper. It is a book of promises, laws, guarantees and warrants. If you are going to operate the product successfully, you must read and adhere to the manual. You are a product. God is the manufacturer and the Bible, which is His Word, is the manual. He gave it to you to guarantee your success. Everything in your ministry must have its origin in the Word and be founded and built on it. It must be the final authority.

I like the Bible description given in the preface of the Gideon's international Bible, which states:

"The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword and the Christian's charter. Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand subject, our good the design and glory of God its end."

.....
***Everything in your ministry must have its origin in
the Word and be founded and built on it***
.....

It should fill the memory, rule the heart and guide the

feet. Read it slowly, frequently and prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory and a river of pleasure.

It is given you in life, will be opened at judgment and remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility and will reward the greatest labor and condemn all those who trifle with its sacred content.

If your ministry is from the Word, and remains in the Word, it is bound to succeed. The word of God is the power and the promise.

The Principle of Compassion

A graduate has been seeking for job, for almost fifteen good years. No means to get money. Then one day she had only but one dollar with her, she entered restaurant and bought food with that money but just after she finished praying for the food three people came in looking so skinny and hungry. They asked her for the food, she had compassion on them and gave them the food. They wanted to pray for her but she told them that they need the prayer more than her. She left them and when she was about to leave they gave her an old coin. She went and lay down under the bridge to sleep, she saw newspaper and picked it and when she was reading it, there was an advert about an old coin that got lost in 1955.

Anybody that brings it was to be paid 10 million dollars. As soon as she saw it, she checked the coin and it was the same. Then she rushed down to the address and they confirmed it and issued her with a cheque of 10 million dollars. She

rushed back to that restaurant to see those three men but she didn't find them. When she asked the waiters, they gave her a letter that the old men left behind and she opened it, and this is what was written:

“This is the God of the Father, the God of the Son and the God of the Holy spirit. No man who praises God shall be left to suffer. Him, his son and grandsons shall live happy under the umbrella of God.”

Moral Lesson:

Blessed is the hand that gives than the hand that receives.

Compassion is love in action. It is active empathy. Compassion is God touching people through you. It is the principle that unleashes the anointing. When true compassion is in play, the power of God surges on the scene. We can never succeed in ministry if our goal is to use people to achieve our ends. Selfishness will not bear God's stamp of approval.

Principles

- Success is not only achieved by hard work but also by smart work.
- Champions do not wait for perfect situations, but they create them.
- The greatest enemy of success is fear of failure.
- Success in ministry with men is an overflow of success in relationship with God.
- Whatever you were born to be and do (Purpose) in your ministry will have to be appropriated by Faith.

- If you aspire to be a great teacher, you must remain a dedicated student. If you want to be a role model, then you must follow some model.
- There is nothing new under the sun. Every challenge you are facing now or will face in future has already been faced and documented by someone.
- Ministry that costs nothing accomplishes nothing. The measure of a ministry consists of the sacrifice made to carry it out.
- The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners and the happiness of believers.

Chapter 5



Every Season for a Reason

You were born to do something in life that leaves nutrients for the seed of the next generation to take root in and grow.

***Ecclesiastes 3:1** says, “There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven.”*

Like the calendar year, our lives have four seasons, and those seasons must come to pass. The first season is **birth and dependency**. All of us go through this season in which we must rely totally on outside help, particularly our families, for survival. We need to be taught and trained in what is right and wrong and what is important in life.

The second season is one of **independence**, in which we capture what we were born to do. We no longer depend on other people to give us a vision for life or to help us survive. We focus on our own goals. We depend primarily on God, yet

we rely on the help of other people to provide the resources that will enable us to live out our dreams.

The third season is ***inter-dependence***. In this stage, we have become so free in our visions that we can give our dreams to other people. We can now pass on our visions to the next generation.

.....
***If people can't receive life from the legacy you
leave when you die, then you really didn't live
effectively***
.....

The final season is ***death***, where our lives become the nourishment for other people's dreams in the next generation. If people can't receive life from the legacy you leave when you die, then you really didn't live effectively. People should be able to flourish on the fruit of the vision you leave behind on earth.

.....
***Make your life on earth count - for yourself
and others***
.....

If it wasn't for their tombstones, we wouldn't know that some people were ever alive. What a tragedy! You should live so effectively that there won't be any need for a tombstone to mark your grave because your life will be in the hearts and memories of those who could never forget you or what you did. Truly great people don't need monuments because we will always remember them. It doesn't matter if we don't know where the graves of David or Joshua are. They lived so

well that we can't forget them. That is the life I pursue every day of my life here. If you live properly, history will not be able to ignore that you lived.

Vision gives us assignments that will impact the earth. We must be able to say we have changed the world in some way while we were here and that we have left a mark for those who will come after us. We were born to do something in life that leaves nutrients for the seeds of the next generation to take root in and grow. The fact is, we will soon be gone from this earth. Let's make the few years we have count! Let's discover and pursue the visions God has placed in our hearts.

Ecclesiastes 3:18 “To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven: A time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck what is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones and a time to gather stones; a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to gain and a time to lose; a time to keep and a time to throw away; a time to fear and a time to sew; a time to keep silent and a time to speak; a time to love and a time to hate; a time for war and a time for peace.”

Every dream has a specific season or length of time. Champions are the ones who know the reason for every season. If you do not know the reason, then you cannot enjoy the season. No matter how big, tiresome and painful the season is, knowledge of the reason will always produce hope and the strength for you to see it through to accomplishment.

The most powerful force in life is the force of vision. A young man did a college paper in his economics class on his vision for overnight mail. The professor took a red pen, gave him a “C,” and wrote, “Do not dream of things that cannot happen.” The young man left school and started Federal Express. I wonder where the professor is today. Your vision determines your destiny. When you can see what is possible and believe that it can come to pass, it makes you capable of doing the impossible.

At age twelve, seated in my class in Suam Primary School in Bukwo District, I wrote down my vision for my life. I carried it with me all through elementary school and high school. Much of what I am doing right now was on paper when I was a young teenager. Vision makes you persistent and tenacious. Once you know what you really want and can “see” it, then, no matter what comes against you, you never give up.

Tenacity in fulfilling one’s life purpose comes from vision. As long as a person can hold on to his vision, then there is always a chance for him to move out of his present circumstances and toward the fulfillment of his purpose. That is why I have always confessed that one day, I am going to have my private jet packed at Entebbe International Airport. Now, I don’t care whether you believe it or not. Every vision has one believer first. I can “see” it with my heart.

.....
Your vision determines your destiny
.....

I believe with all my heart that when you have no vision, you will simply relive the past with its disappointments and failures. Therefore, vision is the key to your future. Think about what happens to some football teams that are losing the game at halftime. The players go to the locker room and meet with the coach. The coach changes certain game strategies and gives them a vitality talk, telling them what they can accomplish. When they come back out, their whole attitude and perception seems to have changed, and they win the game.

No matter where you are in life, and regardless of how old or young you are, it can be “halftime” for you. You can re-assess and re-examine your life’s strategies and focus on fulfilling your purpose. There is a reason for every season.

If you ask people, “Why do you exist?” Most cannot tell you. They can’t explain their purpose in the world. They have no reason for their lives.

Do you have a sense of personal purpose? Do you know why you were born? Does your purpose give you a passion for living? You may ask me, “Do I really need to have a reason for my existence?” My answer is, Absolutely! Life is intended to have meaning and connotation; you were not born just for the fun of it. If all you have to look forward to after working for years for other people is a gold watch and a pension, then your life is a tragedy in the making. You can know why you exist, and you can experience a remarkable life in light of that knowledge. Life doesn’t have to be an aimless, repetitive exercise, because you were not designed to simply ride a rocking horse.

You were meant to be going somewhere, to be headed toward a destination.

Principles

- Like the calendar year, our lives have four seasons, and those seasons must come to pass; dependency, independency, interdependency and death.
- You should live so effectively that there won't be any need for a tombstone to mark your grave
- Every dream has a specific season or length of time. Champions are the ones who know the reason for every season.
- Life is intended to have meaning and connotation; you were not born just for the fun of it.

Chapter 6



Champions Embrace Challenges

Every dream attracts challenges which can be turned into stepping stones to the next level; but only if handled with care. As we embrace these challenges, we gain experience which supply wisdom for tomorrow; we learn by experience and live by inspiration. Like it or not, beloved, you will expire one day; my advice to you is 'Aspire to inspire before you expire

If you expire before you have inspired people, you will become a useless member in the community. Champions' challenges are their role models as they handle them with positive minds. David as a shepherd boy was faced with lions, bears, etc; and when Goliath came, he had an optimistic positive mind because he had an experience behind. What you have been going through was just training, a warm up for the great battle ahead of you in your dream pursuing. The challenges of today are opportunities of becoming great

tomorrow. You will never know that you have Faith that moves mountains if you are not faced with hills or raised ground. It is very impossible to train on the field of play. (**Luke 8:23-25, 2 Timothy 4:5.**)

.....
***The challenges of today are opportunities of
becoming great tomorrow***
.....

When challenges come your way, it does not mean that you are a failure, but instead you possess the fabric or the raw materials to turn you into a champion. At every end of the year in the Uganda education system, best candidates of the year; are published in the press. I have never seen any media press broadcasting the failures. Don't you think they exist? Of course, they do! The connotation here is; the world seeks to associate with Champions and not victims. When you are poor, however much you may have wonderful ideas to offer, people may not listen to you; but when the rich come in with the same ideas, it is automatically a welcome company. The world wants to associate with Champions and not failures.

A great man once said if you take all the money in the world and distribute them equally among people. After a while all the money will go back to their original owners. Why? The poor are mainly consumers and the rich are mainly investors. Show me a poor man and I will show you a man who;

- P** - Passes
- O** - Over
- O** - Opportunities
- R** - Repeatedly.

A man who sees challenges in every opportunity instead of seeing opportunity in every challenge.

Being a MAN is not a title, it is a great responsibility. It means you have to answer financially in the;

M - Morning

A - Afternoon and

N - Night.

You must take great risks to receive greater rewards. You must plan and strategize, you must value profit not wages, you must be focused and you must be determined if you want good success.

The worst people on earth to serve are the poor people. I used to be poor but I am no longer in that clutter. In fact, few days after I got married, I took my wife on a retreat and I told her these words; “Baby, I will never be poor again” Now, when we talk about poverty, it has nothing to do with lack of money. It has a lot to do with lack of Faith and creativity. It is a mindset.

Why poor people are poor?

If you give them for free, they will think it is a ploy. If you tell them it is a small investment, they will say you can’t earn much. If you tell them to come in big, they will say “I don’t have any money”. If you tell them to try new things, they will say “no experience; has it been proven to work? Who has gained from it before?”. If you tell them, it is a traditional business, they will say “it’s too hard to do”.

Tell them, it is a new business model, they will say “I don’t do network marketing and how many years has this business model been existing?”.

Tell them to run a shop, they will say “I will be tied down, I’ll have no freedom”.

Tell them to follow a 1-year business plan, they will say “it’s too long. Please, I can’t wait for so long”.

Ask them what they can do? They will say “I can do anything”.

They like to ask friends who are as hopeless as themselves to get their opinions. Even the Holy Bible acknowledges the fact that blind people don’t lead blind people.

They think more than a Harvard University Professor and do less than a blind man.

They lack action and enjoy their comfort zone, dwelling and swimming in their “own type of knowledge.

Anything beyond their reason can’t work, and therefore it is fraudulent”

Remember it is risky to take a risk, but it is even riskier not to take any risk at all.

Be positive, be smart, be pro-active, learn to try out new things. The world is not ruled only by prayer warriors but by mental warriors.

Thinking is the highest paying job in every field. Make time to think Creatively and Strategically

Champions are not determined by their height or size,

but by how they handle frustrations and challenges that come their way as they pursue their dream. How a Christian handles challenges also determines his or her spiritual maturity? There are times when silence is the best ship home, and there are times when action is needed but with wisdom. Challenges are forces that will compel champions seek the face of Jesus. Wow! This has really worked for me down the years. Learn to handle challenges with a positive mind. If you fail, never give up because FAIL means;

F - First

A - Attempt

I - In

L - Learning.

End is not the end. In fact, END means;

E - Efforts

N - Never

D - Die.

If you receive no for an answer, remember that NO means;

N - Next

O - Opportunity.

Every champion has complications and if you wait for complications to leave you, then you will never ever be a champion.

.....
***If you fail, never give up because Fail means; First
Attempt In Learning. End means; Efforts never die***
.....

One of my best sermons I have ever orated to the world is about Eagles. Eagles love the storms. They fly towards the storm. The Eagle flies in the challenge than running away from it. Challenges are good for a leader and dreamer. Eagles grow to size of 7 feet of its wings. Storm is an opportunity for an eagle to relax. When clouds gather, the eagles get excited. The eagle uses the wings of the storm to rise and is pushed up higher. Once it finds the wing of the storm, the eagle stops flapping and uses the pressure of the raging storm to soar the clouds and glide. This gives the eagle an opportunity to rest its wings. In the meantime, all the other birds hide in the leaves and branches of the trees.

Challenges test your abilities to handle characteristics that make you a leader. You will never be successful without problems. When challenges come your way, it does not mean that you are a failure, but instead you possess the fabric or the raw materials to turn you into a champion. The world wants to associate with Champions and not failures.

.....

***Challenges test your abilities to handle
characteristics that make you a leader***

.....

The successful pursuers of their dreams have acquired skills for tomorrow through the losses of today. When God sent me to Buwalasi, I was 17 years old; much as I had known God and had given my heart to ministry, I was physically young to be a full-time missionary. I was staying with Bishop Joseph Muli; the overseer of Prayer Living Church of Christ Ministries in Uganda, doing ministry together, at the same

time pursuing my Grade Three Certificate Course in teaching profession at Mukuju Core Primary Teachers College.

From nothing by then to something by now, from nobody by then to somebody by now, from zero by then to a hero by now; I have loved, I have laughed, I have made mistakes, I have gained, I have lost, I have cried, I have been taken for granted, I have trusted and have been let down instead, I have been accused falsely over many things, I have faced countless oppositions from false brethrens, I have been discouraged many times, I have been depressed, I have been down casted several times.

But amidst all these, I have learnt and acquired a number of skills that have helped me in pursuing my dreams. In other words, I have come from losses to roses, from pressure to pleasure, from pain to palm, from disappointments to appointments, from messes to God's messenger, from tests to testimonies, from trials to triumph, from zero to a hero, from grass to glory, from thorns to a throne, from rejection to direction.

.....
***Challenges have been my role models in my life. I
always can't wait to have the next one. They have
strengthened me in my feeblest***
.....

Whenever there is a loss, an opportunity for roses come. True champions carry a rose flower for every loss they encounter. What you lost might have been your poverty and ignorance. I urge you to celebrate your struggles because it is part of what makes you as strong as you are.

A time will come when your life will be the talk of the day, When your enemies will acknowledge the God that you have ever trusted in, a time when your prayers will be answered, a time when the vision God has bestowed on you will come true, a time when you will be a blessing to many, a time where those who hated you will love you, a time where those who forsook you will come back to you, a time where those who rejected you will favor you, a time when you will sing a new song, a time when you will live a life beyond and above your present circumstances, a time when people will seek you like precious treasure. I pray for you that may my God fulfill your dreams.

God always has something for you. A key for every problem, a light for every shadow, a relief for every sorrow, a Plan for every tomorrow. I have personally learned to be thankful to God in my life over anything. Challenges have been my role models in my life. I always can't wait to have the next one. They have strengthened me in my feeblest. When I look down the trend; I am strong because I know my weakness; I am fearless because I have learnt to recognize artifice from reality; I am wise because I have learnt from my mistakes; I am a lover because I have felt hatred from others; I can laugh because I have known sadness.

Be thankful to God for the bad things in life. For they opened your eyes to the good things you were not paying attention to before. Nobody has it easy, everybody has issues, you never know what people are going through, and they are fighting their unique wars. A defeated life is a life without fruit, a life without power, a life without a positive influence,

a life dominated by the flesh, a life directed at times by Satan, a life dictated by the world. The more you count your blessings, the more blessings you will have to count. I always do. That is a championship life!

Without prayer, you cannot get where you want to go. There will be times when all you'll have is prayer. You won't have any money, people, or resources—just prayer. Yet that is all you need. God will see you through.

When all the trouble and opposition came to Nehemiah, he said to God, “*Remember Tobiah and Sanballat, O my God, because of what they have done; remember also the prophetess Noadiah and the rest of the prophets who have been trying to intimidate me*” (Nehemiah 6:14). Nehemiah took all his troubles and enemies to God in prayer. He didn't write a letter of complaint to the editor of the newspaper. He didn't try to justify himself. He prayed, and God answered his prayer to deliver him. (See verses 15-16.)

God has invested Himself in your dream, and He will bring it to pass.

Likewise, when people attack your dream, go to God. Don't try to explain and give an answer for everything because you can't explain anything to critics. Their motives are already contaminated, and they'll use your words against you. Instead, stay connected to your Source for the renewal of your purpose, faith, and strength, and you will be able to persevere to victory. God is the One who planted your life's purpose within you in the beginning. He has invested Himself in your dream, and He will bring it to pass.

“If the Lord delights in a man’s way, he makes his steps firm; though he stumbles, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand “ (Psalm 37:23-24).

Principles

- Every dream attracts challenges which can be turned into stepping stones to the next level; but only if handled with care.
- You must take great risks to receive greater rewards.
- The worst people on earth to serve are the poor people.
- Champions are not determined by their height or size, but by how they handle frustrations and challenges that come their way.
- Challenges test your abilities to handle characteristics that make you a leader.
- Whenever there is a loss, an opportunity for roses comes.
- Be thankful to God for the bad things in life. For they opened your eyes to the good things you were not paying attention to before.
- God has invested Himself in your dream, and He will bring it to pass.
- Likewise, when people attack your dream, go to God. Don’t try to explain and give an answer for everything because you can’t explain anything to critics.

Chapter 7



Radical Dreamers for Radical Success

If your dream never leaves your mind, then you will surely always reap failure, but when you begin to present the dream to the environment around you, there will be a response. When you depend on people, you end up depressed, but when you depend on God, you end up achieving your success and pleasure. It is important to get support from people; it is significant for the survival of the dream. But then if you rely on people, do it because you have trusted God first. Whatever you have is the best capital to start on your dream. Out of nothing, something can begin. The gate way to every class is the beginning. If you come across a challenge in the early days of your dream, be strengthened because one fall does not mean the end of life. Every setback to one's dream pursuance should actually be a stepping stone to one's comeback.

Know your source

If you are going to move from who you now are, to whom God created you to be, you must seek to understand the nature of God's original design for you, before sin atrophied your life. That understanding is not available to you unless you become reconnected with God, your Creator. Apart from Him, you cannot and will not release your championship because He gave you the potential and He designed you to fulfill it. You must know God, your Source, if you want to experience a satisfying, abundant life.

.....
***Resist the desire to wait till tomorrow if it can be
done today and now***
.....

This is true because the foundation key for becoming a champion and all that you were born to be is always a relationship and a reconnection with the source or maker of a product. You must have a life-changing happenstance and encounter with the One who made you if you want to become who you were created to be.

Every overflow begins with a drop. Life is what you make it to be and not what you hope for it to be. What you do right now is the key to usher you into greatness. Resist the desire to wait till tomorrow. If it can be done today and now. Even today was yesterday's tomorrow. What you have is the key to start the engine of greatness and achievement. You do not need much to change your tomorrow. Rise up with that humble beginning because every overflow begins with a

drop. Behind every overflowing stream of greatness, there is a beginning point, and remember that even millionaires begin with one single cent of shilling or dollar.

Know your resources

Provisions and comestibles are given for the fulfillment of vision. Every builder, before he starts a project, both estimates what materials he will need to complete the job and determines what resources are available to him. God functions in a similar manner. As He forms and fashions each person for a specific purpose, He also provides the necessary resources to accomplish and undertake His plans.

Exodus 4:1-2, Moses had the question yet he did not know that he had the answer with him. You are surrounded with heavenly and earthly resources. You have all the master keys of becoming great. Great people are not born great neither do they begin as great but they are made great. Resources around you may be: People, Money, Friends, Church; etc. May be your greatest resource now is Prayer. Ask God to open your eyes right now as He opened the eyes of Elisha's servants to see a mighty army on their side.

1 Kings 17:10-14, what will sustain you tomorrow is what you have today, once handled with care. Learn to invest what you have in order to receive what you do not have. Investors invest what they have to get what they don't have.

The difference is not the location, but the connection. The survival and the fulfillment of a dream requires a location, but

it is only the connection that will make the location useful. There is no miracle that has got no connection. If you are not a connector, then be connected.

Personally, down the years, I have been a connecting factor to a number of folks. If you have the location and no connection, it will be impossible to bring the dream to birth. By the grace of God, I was the Manager and Deputy Director of Zion African Children Ministries, a ministry that is aimed at helping the needy and orphaned children. This organization was born in 2013, not with location but with connection. The location, King James Primary School in Tororo, was required for its survival and fulfillment and indeed it has; but it is the connection that has made the location valuable and paramount.

Joseph's dream life at his father's home had a location, but the location was insignificant not until he got a connection. Joseph would not be the prime minister of Egypt if he had not been connected. In chapter one, I shared with you that Joseph's dream required foreigners, natives, religious people, enemies, etc. for it to come true. Beloved, never fear enemies who attack you, but only fear friends who flatter you. Later Joseph used his connection to change his location. You can use the connection to change your location. There is potential everywhere and what you need is God's insight to see the opportunities around you.

.....
***You need to be connected to the right people and
resources for your dream to come to reality***
.....

John the Baptist, was a man like you and me. Down the River of Jordan, we see the Jews sending the priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him who he was. Multitudes of people had come to be baptized, including our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the dream pursuing, there is an element I call attraction. There is a force that causes people to be attracted to you, regardless of your products and location. Through Prayer network, get connected to the throne room of God where impossibilities turn into possibilities. Jesus said, “I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end”. Better be connected to the author and the finisher of everything (your dream). You need to be connected to the right people and resources for your dream to come to reality.

A lot of people are like wheelbarrows, no good unless pushed. Some are like canoes, they have to be paddled; some are like trailers, they have to be pulled, some are like kites, if you do not keep a string on them, they fly away. Some are like balls, you cannot tell which direction they will bounce and others are like balloons, full of air and ready to blow up.

It is your responsibility as a champion to have the insight and the foresight of who are the wheelbarrows, trailers, canoes, kites, balls and balloons. In life, you will realize that there is a purpose for everyone you meet; some people will use you, some people will test you and some will teach you. But the most important are the ones who bring out the best in you, respect you and accept you for who you are. Those are the people worth keeping around.

The road to success is never straight. There is a curve called failure, a loop hole called confusion, speed humps called friends, red lights called enemies, caution lights called family and you will have flats called jobs. But only if you have a spare part called determination, an engine called perseverance, insurance called Faith and a driver called God, you will make it to a place called success: Your destiny!

We do not prove the resource of God until we trust Him for the impossible. If God can hang the stars on high, can paint the clouds that drift by, can send the sun across the sky, what can His power do for you?

In leading a championship life, there are things that you should take serious in life; in this journey of becoming a champion, there are certain things that you should take note of: -

Think: It is the source of power.

Play: It is the secret of perpetual life.

Pray: It is the greatest power on the earth.

Love: It is too short a day to be selfish.

Read: It is the foundation of wisdom.

Work: It is the price of success.

Laugh: It is the music of the soul.

Principles

- If your dream never leaves your mind, then you will surely always reap failure
- You come across a challenge in the early days of your dream, be strengthened because one fall does not mean the end of life.
- Foundation key for becoming a champion and all that you were born to be is always a relationship and a reconnection with the source or maker of a product.
- The survival and the fulfillment of a dream requires a location, but it is only the connection that will make the location useful.
- You need to be connected to the right people and resources for your dream to come to reality.
- The road to success is never straight.
- We do not prove the resource of God until we trust Him for the impossible.

Chapter 8



Dream Interpreters and Interrupters

Because of the sins of the Israelites in 586 BC, God allowed Judah to be subjugated by the Babylonians. Jerusalem was also destroyed and many of the Jews were carried as captives to Babylon which was approximately 1000 kilo meters from Jerusalem. Thousands of Israelites settled in Babylon and began to rear families and create businesses and live somewhat normal lives.

However, life did not become totally normal because the Israelites always realized that they were living in the foreign land. Home was always in Palestine. During the time of the Israelites' captivity in Babylon, the Babylonians were overthrown by the Persians. These were a powerful people who had been slowly building in strength to the point that they were able to subjugate the Babylonians. The Persians occupied Babylon and were somehow sympathetic to the

Jews who had been brought there several generations earlier.

About 538 BC, the Persian King, Cyrus, allowed a number of Jews to return to Jerusalem with Zerubabel to start rebuilding the city. Unfortunately, Zerubabel was not able to complete the project. About 80 years later, Ezra led another delegation back to Jerusalem to continue the restoration process. A few years after Ezra's return, a man named Nehemiah was working as the cup bearer for the Persian King, Artaxerxes.

The position was very significant. The cup-bearer literally tested all the food and wine that the king ate and drank to make sure it was safe. Because the cup bearer worked so closely with the King, they often developed a personal relationship. This seemed to be the case with Nehemiah and Artaxerxes.

One day, Nehemiah had a report from Jerusalem that the city still lay in ruins despite the best efforts of those who had tried to rebuild it. This made him very unhappy. However, it was several months later before the king noticed that Nehemiah was sad and asked him about it. Nehemiah told him what he had recently heard about the condition of Jerusalem. He also asked the King to send him to Jerusalem to finish rebuilding the city.

King Artaxerxes granted his request and Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem where he started to rebuild the walls of the city. He was able to get many people to assist him and completed the project in record time. The story illustrates to us that Nehemiah was one of the champions of all time. But along the runway, Nehemiah encountered a number

of problems; both internal and external; big man problem, overwork, welfare of the workers, appointment of leaders, ridicule, violence, blackmail, intimidation, the insider and many more. His dream of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem had interpreters as well as interrupters.

.....
***Your life will be better when you realize that it is
better to be alone than chase people who really
don't care about your dream***
.....

Nehemiah 4:1-3, Before Nehemiah had a dream, he had no enemies. “Where a carcass is, that is where vultures come,” where there is a dream, there are dream interpreters, but also after that, there are dream interrupters. Nehemiah, the vision bearer handled the insults with wisdom. Nehemiah 4:17- once you handle frustration and disappointments, you will have the skills and experience.

Learn to get rid of negative people and thinkers around your dream. If your thinking is the problem, try to renew your mind by the word. Romans 12.1-2. Find out what they talk about you and what concerns you. Give yourself permission to immediately walk away from anything that gives you vibes. There is no need to explain or make sense of it, just trust what you feel. Your life will be better when you realize that it is better to be alone than chase people who really don't care about your dream.

Job 2:9- “Then his wife told him, do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and Die!”

Pessimistic people will think about your dream as dead. Your dream is one negative step or thought from its death. No matter the set back or trial, never lose hope in that dream. You are not finished when you lose the battle, you are finished when you quite the battle. Your failures are gears to your success.

Think big and act briskly, your mind is a tool that will help your life to have continuity. Creativity is the key to pursuing your dream. You must have new ideas for every new day to take your dream to the next level.

Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope"

If even God who has all wisdom and knowledge thinks, how much more, should we think?

.....
Your failures are gears to your success
.....

Maybe you've never known what you wanted to do with your life. Or maybe you had a dream once but lost sight of it through discouraging circumstances or the busyness of day-to-day living. No matter how much money you may have, if you don't have a clear dream for your life, you are truly poor.

It has been said that if you don't know where you're going, any road will take you there. What's worse, you won't even know when you have arrived. Unless you have a definite idea of where you want to go, the chances that you will get there are remote.

The problem is that most people have no dream beyond their current circumstances. Without a vision of the future, life loses its meaning. An absence of meaning then leads to a lack of hope. Whenever people are hopeless about their life situations, they can become resentful of their jobs or families. They feel as if they are wasting their lives, and they start living with a vague but constant internal longing for something more. They may even stop participating in life in any significant way. No matter how much money a person may have, anyone who lives like this is poor. A dreamless life is a poverty-stricken existence.

.....
***If you don't know where you're going, any road
will take you there. But you won't even know
when you have arrived***
.....

Yet if you can see beyond your present circumstances, if you can have hope for the future, you have true riches, no matter how much money you have in your bank account. That is why the Bible encourages us with the words in our verse: (Jeremiah 29:11)

"I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future".

It doesn't matter what you currently have or don't have, as long as you can see what you could have.

This vision is the key to life because where there's a dream, there's hope, and where there's hope, there's faith—and faith

is the substance, or fulfillment, of what you are hoping for. (See Hebrews 11:1.)

Living with Frustrated Dreams

The poorest person in the world is a person without a dream.

Having a vision, or a dream, is inherent in being human. What is your dream? What do you imagine yourself doing? What do you want to accomplish? Are you doing what you really want to do with your life?

Maybe you once had ideas of what you wanted to be and do, and you still have those ideas. Do you see yourself becoming a lawyer and starting your own firm? Do you dream of owning a successful boutique where people are waiting in line to buy the fashions you designed? Do you think about owning a day-care center that has a first-class curriculum and services one thousand children? Do you want to write a book? Do you imagine yourself owning a prosperous business and being able to give more money to your church? Do you dream about going back to school and doing something with your education and academic abilities?

By the end of the work week, many of us are very tired. The question is, after exhausting ourselves, are we any closer to where we want to go? This is what I mean when I talk about dream interrupters. People have all kinds of ideas in their minds, but they rarely act on them. This is the pattern that often occurs: Five or ten years will go by, and they still

haven't done anything to help realize their dreams. Twenty years will pass, yet they haven't become what they really wanted to be or accomplished what they wanted to build or create.

While the poorest person in the world is a person without a dream, the most frustrated person in the world is someone who has a dream but doesn't know how to bring it to pass. This is the person whose dream has become a nightmare of unfulfilled expectations. When people feel that they are just wandering through life and wasting their potential, their despair can spill over into other areas of their lives, including their relationships, causing additional heartache. These people come to the end of their lives drained, rather than completed, because there's no relationship between their jobs and their visions; there's no relationship between their present circumstances and their dreams.

It's depressing and frustrating to have an idea for years that you haven't yet seen come to pass. Are you weary of having high expectations that never work out? Maybe by now you have so many unfulfilled dreams that it hurts too much to dream anymore. Perhaps you started to pursue your vision, but you got interrupted or something went wrong, and you abandoned it—there wasn't enough money, it was too time-consuming, people were working against you, your day job became too demanding, or your family said it would never succeed. Since continuing to pursue your dream was so difficult, you backed off, saying, "Forget it! I'm not going to try to be what I really want to be. I'm going to get a 'regular' job with a secure salary and settle down. I'm going to live as a

normal person with normal friends in a normal house with a normal paycheck and be buried in a normal grave.”

You are a product of your thoughts. God cannot work according to what you have, but He works according to who He is; you cannot do anything more than what you think you can do. We look the way we are today because of what we thought ourselves to be yesterday. Invest in your thought life, you are your thoughts, you are responsible for where you are today, think yourself from Victim to champion.

.....
***God cannot work according to what you have, but
He works according to who He is***
.....

God has a dream and a vision for you that’s supposed to carry you right out into eternity because that’s what is pulling it. When you die, you’re meant to leave this earth not on a pension but on a purpose. You need to make sure you can say at the end of your life, as Jesus did, “It is finished” (John 19:30) and not just, “I am retired,” for your dream is much bigger than mere retirement.

Principles

- Learn to get rid of negative people and thinkers around your dream
- Your dream is one negative step or thought from its death.
- Think big and act briskly, your mind is a tool that will

help your life to have continuity.

- It has been said that if you don't know where you're going, any road will take you there. What's worse, you won't even know when you have arrived.
- While the poorest person in the world is a person without a dream, the most frustrated person in the world is someone who has a dream but doesn't know how to bring it to pass.
- You are a product of your thoughts.
- When you die, you're meant to leave this earth not on a pension but on a purpose.
- Make sure you can say at the end of your life, as Jesus did, "It is finished" (John 19:30) and not just, "I am retired," for your dream is much bigger than mere retirement.

Chapter 9



Shaking to Shinning

***Acts 16:23-26** says when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.*

There is a striking principle which I want us to extract from this text above, Paul and Silas were divinely ordained apostles of God, sent to a divine mission with all clear evidences of divine guidance. And when they, missed the guidance once, they entered into turbulent times but despite the turbulent times, they were able to win victory. The result was the church in Thessalonians. How do I know

they missed it? God's 'target in that land was the jailer, not the public and when they went to the public they were beaten. When we do God's will in our ways, we will have to pay for them but when we wait for His ways, we do not have to pay for them.

There are times which may not seem favorable in the pursuit of our dreams, but our attitude towards these times will determine whether we go forward or backward. Many times people think best in shaking or turbulent situation not that God intends it this way, but in such moments, we have an intense desire to see change whereby we are willing to go an extra mile with a higher sense of determination. In this way, we tend to place a demand on both our physical and spiritual capacities which have been buried in mediocrity and complacency.

So to some and the largest majority, it is turbulent times that bring quality in their dreams. A lot of things in the world are as a result of changing their original state. If you got meat, onions, tomatoes, green paper, powder, cooking oil, salt, carrots etc. and mix, you will not achieve the aroma you want unless heated. But you can add the aroma of Christ's finished works and get the best results so that you do not have to go through what he went through to get what he got for you.

Experience shows that shaking situations will become transport systems to their shinning levels. We do not need to wait for such fire heated seasons or times to bring change in our lives. God has given us wisdom through the Spirit, which we can access for our desired changes.

What you do in a tight situation will either bring shinning or dying effect in your life. Remember that, Spirit guided strategies will bring peace that transcends human understanding, which facilitates the right attitude for effective performance. Divine wisdom will expose us to unlimited platforms of victory.

When they turned to God's strategy, the limitations of the prison were shaken, their dreams broke free.

Acts 4:29-31 *'And now, Lord, behold their threatening: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus. And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.'*

When the apostles were intimidated not to preach in the name of the Lord, they engaged in prayer and the place where they were, was shaken. Whatever shakes you, you can also shake it in God. Do not just give up. These are time in which we can bring out our best for the glory of God and for the welfare of men. Peter used the prayer approach, while Paul and Cyrus used the worship approach.

The prisoners were listening to every song and word born out of their changed attitude in shaking times. Remember, what you do determines the outcome in any situation. You are not alone and you are not the first. Men and women have been where you are, they used the eyes of faith till they realized their dreams. Allow me prophesy to you today; shinning is

coming; keep the dream alive even in the shaking situation.

Exodus 2:1. The pressure behind or around your dream is the material and that will help you to manufacture great ideas. Being under pressure leads one to generating tremendous solutions. The best solutions and answers are got from having been under pressure. Pressures of today are pleasures of tomorrow. The pressures around your dream are the connecting forces to your destiny. Genesis 30:27, Stop crying and regretting, champions are Eagle-eyed, they see beyond the ordinary.

2 Corinthians 2:1-2, *“Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in all Achaia: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”*

Paul wrote this book to the Christians in Corinth at a time when many of them were rejecting his ministry to them. As a result, Paul teaches us many lessons about the way to deal with shaking situations and rejection in this book. This is one of the things that I want to help my children learn to understand and know how to deal with, if they are going to become kingdom global regents of change.

Paul began this letter by saying he was an apostle because that was the will of God. In **1 Corinthians 15:8-9** Paul said,

“Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.”

Paul realized that he was an apostle by the will of God

even though he did not meet all of the qualifications. The Lord also chooses to work through our lives even when we do not feel qualified. Timothy joined with Paul in sending this letter to the Corinthians.

This letter was sent to the church at Corinth and to all of the Christians that lived in Achaia or what is today southern Greece. Here we see that Paul and Timothy focused on the whole region and not just the city. This is an important lesson for us also. We need to learn how to minister to a region in the same way. Wherever we are the Lord wants to work through our lives to reach out to the whole surrounding region no matter the shakings. Paul and Timothy wanted all of the Christians to experience both the grace and the peace of the Lord.

Paul and Timothy were going through a time of shaking and travail.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 says, *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.”*

The word that is translated “tribulation” speaks of going through a time of pressure, distress or oppression. However, instead of complaining Paul and Timothy looked at what God was doing in their lives through this tribulation and shaking.

God understood the pressures that they faced in their lives because He is the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort. God had provided comfort to them in this time

of tribulation. However, they explained what the Lord was doing in their own lives during this difficult time. They were experiencing the comfort of God but they also realized that the Lord was equipping them to comfort others as others went through times of suffering. Here we see a key lesson about shaking. The Lord allows shaking in our lives to prepare us for ministry to others during their times of shaking. This is why **James 1:2** says, “*My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials.*” The Lord is working through the trials that we experience in our lives to equip us to share the comfort that God has given us. As a result, we can have joy even in times of shakings.

2 Corinthians 1:5-7 says, “*For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ. Now if we are afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effective for enduring the same sufferings which we also suffer. Or if we are comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation. And our hope for you is steadfast, because we know that as you are partakers of the sufferings, so also you will partake of the consolation.*”

A key thing to notice here is that the word translated comfort in verses 3 and 4 is the same word that is translated consolation in verses 5-7 so that word is used six times in these verses.

The word that is translated “consolation or comfort” means a calling near for help or that which provides encouragement, comfort or refreshment and Timothy were experiencing suffering and shaking for the sake of Christ. However, at the same time Paul and Timothy saw that the Lord was giving them

strength and boldness even in the middle of their suffering. Here Paul makes it clear that the Lord is allowing them to suffer these things so that they can provide encouragement and comfort to the Christians in Corinth and other places. In **2 Corinthians 7:67** Paul and Timothy wrote,

“Nevertheless God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus, and not only by his coming, but also by the consolation with which he was comforted in you, when he told us of your earnest desire, your mourning, your zeal for me, so that I rejoiced even more.”

Paul and Timothy had experienced comfort both from the coming of Titus and from the report that he gave about the church at Corinth.

At the same time Paul and Timothy said that if they were comforted that it was for the encouragement and salvation of the Christians at Corinth. Here we see that just as the message from Titus brought encouragement to Paul and Timothy, they wanted the Christians in Corinth to experience this same encouragement. In fact, Paul wrote in **2 Corinthians 8:16-17** that Titus had developed this same concern for the Christians in Corinth. Those verses say,

“But thanks be to God who puts the same earnest care for you into the heart of Titus. For he not only accepted the exhortation, but being more diligent, he went to you of his own accord.”

Here we see that Paul also realized that many of the Corinthian Christians were also suffering for their faith.

It has been said that there are three kinds of people in the world: First, there are those who never seem to be aware that

things are happening around them. Second, there are those who ask, “What just happened?” Third, there are those who make things happen.

I have observed first-hand the truth of this statement, paraphrased from John Stuart Mill: One person with vision is greater than the passive force of ninety-nine people who are merely interested in doing or becoming something. Most people have an interest in their destinies, but they have no passion or drive to fulfill them. They don’t really believe the dreams God has put in their hearts. If they do believe them, they don’t do the things that will take them in the direction of fulfilling them. Yet that is what separates the people who make an impact in the world and those who just exist on the planet.

Have you discovered what your dream is? Finding something you can put your whole self into will fill your life with new hope and purpose. It will give you a reason for living. My purpose has become my passion. It wakes me up in the morning, and it keeps me going when I’m tired. It is an antidote to depression. It causes me to have joy in the midst of great opposition because I know that what God has given me to accomplish cannot be stopped by anyone.

When you discover your vision, it will give you energy and Passion. Ecclesiastes 9:10 says, “*Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.*” The vision in your heart is the spark that will enable you to pursue your dream because, unless you do so with all your enthusiasm and strength, it will not happen. I believe this Scripture expresses a truth that most people miss: You accomplish only what you fight for. Again,

if you are merely interested in your dream, it will never come to pass. However, if you are willing to put all your energy into it, then nobody can stop it from succeeding.

I believe this Scripture also implies that if you set your hands to do something, there will inevitably be resistance, opposition, and difficulties; therefore, you have to apply pressure in order to fulfill your dream. You must put your whole might behind it. Hard work and diligence are essential ingredients to success, but they require an internal motivation. That internal motivation is vision.

Principles

- A lot of things in the world are as a result of changing their original state.
- Experience shows that shaking situations become transport systems to shinning levels.
- Pressures of today are pleasures of tomorrow. The pressures around your dream are the connecting forces to your destiny.
- The Lord chooses to work through our lives even when we do not feel qualified.
- The Lord allows shaking in our lives to prepare us for ministry to others during their times of shaking.
- It has been said that there are three kinds of people in the world: First, there are those who never seem to be aware that things are happening around them. Second,

there are those who ask, “What just happened?” Third, there are those who make things happen.

- When you discover your vision, it will give you energy and Passion.
- You accomplish only what you fight for.

Chapter 10



Achievers are Beginners

This is the only way to finish and worthwhile achievements there is no other way. Until you begin moving or walking in the direction of your dream, you will never be an achiever.

We all know that always the beginnings are not easy, but you will never find your belonging until you begin your dignity in life and you will never be celebrated. Many have died dreamers, they have gone to their graves in shame, yet nothing is left behind them as a legacy, a monument for their lives oh they lived like shadow. Every success has a beginning. Be determined to begin on the dream and be bold enough that you will not surrender and give up till the end.

Never rush to admire a king when he is seated on his throne, find out how he got to that place of glory. There is always a struggle, a war, a battle before you glory. But many times, this happens when you are paving the way on your own,

but there are those that get the throne through the hereditary process. Thank God for Christ. He has made us partakers of the divine heritage. You are now a king by divine order, but we need to know the principles that will manifest and enforce this kingdom authority in us for our desired kingly reign.

In this pursuit, you may lose the battle but it does not in any way label you a failure. You are a winner fighting on the winning side. Do not give up; make sure you press on until you finally enforce your victory. The reason many people give up is because they tend to look at how far they still have to go, instead of how far they have come.

Go all the way (Zechariah 4:10) for who has despised the day of small things?

Friends, the only password of getting through is to go through. Achievers do not plan to give up nor do they rejoice in sit down. If you sit down in the middle of the battle, you may end up being a causality, a victim of circumstance and worst of all is being taken as prisoners of war, so go through.

Make workable strategies, break down all the impossible into small possibilities and set big goals, but tackle them in small bits. Momentum will always rise in the accomplishment of those small achievements. All great heights are achieved through the small steps so never despise the days of small beginnings.

Engaging in Wishful Thinking

The number one reason people don't begin on their visions and dreams is that they're caught in a trap of wishful thinking. Their dreaming doesn't go beyond vague ideas of what they would like to do "someday." Yet dreaming is only the beginning of vision. We should have wills rather than mere wishes.

In other words, instead of wishing that things would get better, we must make concrete resolutions. We have to say, "Things must get better, and here, specifically, is what I'm going to do about it." For example, instead of saying, "I wish I could go to campus," sit down today, write specific campus with requests for applications, and when they arrive, start filling them out. Instead of saying, "I wish I could lose weight," go on a morning walk daily and visit the gym more often. Make a decision, and then take the first step.

People's success or failure in life is not dependent on the color of their skin. You can be black, white, brown, yellow, or red, and that won't affect the fulfillment of your vision. The real problem is the color of some people's lives; their lives are "gray." Such people don't have a precise way of living. They're just here. They drift along, allowing life to happen to them.

God doesn't want anyone to live in a gray zone. When someone is living in the gray, it means that person is not saying yes or no, but maybe. He never quite settles on one thing in his heart. There are millions of people who still aren't sure who

they are, what they're about, and what they're doing. These people are living in the gray. They have no real intention of doing anything with their lives. What a depressing reality. God has invested so much in us, He hates to see us wasting our lives in wishful thinking. He wants us to place our feet on the solid ground of vision,

Living with Hesitancy

Many people's visions never take specific shape because they can't make up their minds what they want to do in life. The only decision they make is not to decide. Prolonged indecisiveness is a vision-interrupter, and it also drains the joy out of life. I have noticed that the most miserable people in the world are those who can never make a decision. The Bible expresses their situation well: "*A double minded man is unstable in all his ways*" (James 1:8 KJV, emphasis added). Indecisiveness carries over into all areas of life. A person who is indecisive is unsettled; he's on shaky ground.

Many of us make shopping lists before we go to the store, but few of us make lists of what we want for our lives. Many people—perhaps yourself— have been trying to decide to do something for years, yet they still haven't made a solid decision about it. Sometimes, they impose this delay on themselves because of uncertainty or fear of failure; other times they worry about what other people might say or think about their ideas, yet these people are putting themselves in a dangerous position: the middle of the road. When you are indecisive, life keeps running you over. Even though you are

on the right truck, you will get run over on if you don't move.

That is why I am so committed to fulfilling what God gave me birth to do. I resolved years ago that I would look only to God's Word and the vision He put in my heart to know what I could accomplish. In this way, God's purposes and principles have determined what I'm going to be and do rather than my own fears or others' opinions.

No matter how people don't like me, no matter how many critics come my way, I am set on my vision, just as Jesus was set on His. The Bible says,

"Now it came to pass, when the time had come for [Jesus} to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem"
(Luke 9:51 NKJV)

Jesus set His face "steadfastly" or "like flint" (Isaiah 50:7) in His determination to fulfill His purpose. Flint is one of the hardest rocks you can find. This analogy means that after Jesus had set His goal to go to the cross, it was too late to talk Him out of it. He was set and determined to accomplish His vision. I always tell my co-workers that I have walked too far to stop. I have fought too hard to quit the ring. Many people give up because they tend to look at how far they have to go instead of how far they have come.

Are you living that way? Is there something you have decided to follow through with, no matter what? Are you committed to a vision that is bigger than your life? You are not a failure if you are defeated. You are a failure if you quit.

Making Excuses

Sometimes, we know what we should be doing, but we're hesitant to take that first step. We always intend to do it, but we never do. Instead, we make excuses, such as "When my life gets less complicated," "When I feel more confident," or "After I pray about it more."

There is a story of two fishermen who were lost in a storm on a lake. The storm was blowing so fiercely that they couldn't see a thing. One of the fishermen said to his colleague, "We have two choices. We can pray or row. Which one should we do?" The other answered, "Let's do both!" That's the way you need to live. Instead of deliberating about what you need to do, just say, "Let's row" Even though you're scared, keep on rowing. Set a destination even while you're praying, and God will guide you where you need to go.

Another group of people who have trouble carrying vision through to the end is what I call the "professional starters." They're always beginning something, but they never finish anything. For example, they have books they've never finished, yet they keep starting new ones. Nothing in the world feels as good as reading through to the last page of a book because then you know that that book is in you and no one can take it away from you. Everything you leave unfinished will discourage you from completing other projects. The unfinished has a way of haunting your life.

If plan A did not work, remember the alphabet has 25 more letters, stay cool, change the plan but never the goal.

Principles

- Until you begin moving or walking in the direction of your dream, you will never be an achiever.
- Many have died dreamers, they have gone to their graves in shame, yet nothing is left behind them as a legacy, a monument for their lives oh they lived like shadow.
- The only password of getting through is to go through.
- People's success or failure in life is not dependent on the color of their skin.
- The most miserable people in the world are those who can never make a decision.
- Many of us make shopping lists before we go to the store, but few of us make lists of what we want for our lives.
- Many people give up because they tend to look at how far they have to go instead of how far they have come.
- Everything you leave unfinished will discourage you from completing other projects.

Chapter 11



Teamwork

We need other people if we are going to be successful in life because we were not created to fulfill our visions and dreams alone. As a matter of fact, God specifically said about His first human creation, “It is not good for the man to be alone” (Genesis 2:18). We need people to make it in life. Again, individual purpose is always fulfilled within a larger or corporate purpose. Therefore, it’s important that we work with others in making our visions a reality.

T- Together

E- Everyone

A- Achieves

M- More.

It is experimentally proven that; team work makes the dream work. No single-handed people can make high rate production. If you want to increase production in any field,

you must learn to raise social labor. Two people are better than one, for they can help each other. Proper team building is one of the fastest ways through which a dream can be accomplished. You cannot build a dream by yourself. Jesus was 100% God, but He needed twelve men around Him. We were made out of a team's effort, so we should work as a team.

Train people always around you so that you will not overwork yourself because tomorrow needs you. Instead of doing the work of ten men, why can't you train ten men to do the work? Championship is all about smart work and not hard work. Comprehend things differently from others, so that you do not do what does not work for you, and do not wait for tasks to accumulate for you to get serious.

Proverbs 10:4-5; "He who has a slack hand becomes poor, but the hand of the diligent makes rich, he who gathers in summer is a wise son: he who sleeps in harvest is a son who causes shame"

Proverbs 23:4-5; "Do not overwork to be rich because of your own understanding, cease! Will you set your eyes on that which is not? For riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away like an Eagle toward heaven"

Dreams do not work, not because they are not great, but because they lack properly laid systems. Life was designed for companionship not isolation, for intimacy not loneliness, we are not here to go alone, be a team member.

Exodus 18:21; "More over you shall select from all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them to be rulers of thousands, rulers of

hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens”

Always allow wise people around you. Seek advice from people who are ahead of you. Each person has a vital part to play in the journey of pursuing your dream (delegate).

Acts 6:2-3, *” then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, ’ it is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business”*

Father, Son and Holy Spirit worked as a team.

Genesis 11:6 *says “And the Lord said, indeed the people are one and they all have the same language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to will be withheld from them”*

When God sees people in unity, it causes Him to be involved.

In team work, there are about seven stake holders:

A leader: *One in charge.*

Idea people: *People who think of creative ways of doing things.*

Organizers: *People who keep things in order.*

Task-oriented people: *These are people who follow through on assignments.*

People-oriented: *These are the people who build up and motivate others for action.*

Peacemakers: *These are the people who try to solve the conflicts*

that arise.

Evaluators: *These are the people who constantly monitor progress towards the goal.*

In team working, everybody is somebody. Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress and working together is success. The spirit of team work says; together we stand, together we fall, together we win and winners take all.

The Purpose of Teams

A team provides a place where planning is done, difficulties are solved and training is conducted.

Development of teams also helps to prevent dominating leadership. Since tasks are discussed in the same team and are taken in rotation, monopolies are avoided. One person cannot wield all of the decision-making power.

As team members share responsibilities, they will understand and appreciate the important contributions each one makes to the ministry. The team will be less likely to rely on one dominant person to complete ministry tasks.

Teams also help to preserve the community by sharing the authority of leadership. If leadership responsibility is centered in one person, there is a possibility of dominating leadership and abuse of power.

When authority and leadership is shared, there must be a consensus when decisions are being made which leads to unity in fulfilling their responsibilities.

(Nehemiah 2:17, emphasis added).

“Then I said to [the Jews, priests, nobles, officials, and others], ‘You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace’”

Nehemiah was the one who had received the vision, but he had to go to other people to help him get it done. For any vision that you have God has people prepared to work with you, and they will be a blessing to you.

When I joined the University of World Mission Frontiers, I had a dream to get my degree in Theology, and there were people who already had been divinely set apart to help me through it. Some of them helped me academically, others financially, others with encouragement in my spiritual walk.

When you have a dream, that’s the way it works. People will always be there, waiting to help you. Therefore, if you have no dream, or if you do not begin to act on it, the people who are supposed to help you won’t know where to find you.

.....
You become like those with whom you spend time
.....

The principle of influence has a twofold application, however, because people can have a negative effect on us as well as a positive one. When you begin to act on your vision, it will stir both those who want to help you and those who want to hinder you.

The Law of Association

The law of association states that you become like those with whom you spend time. We often underestimate others' influence in our lives. There are two words that most accurately describe influence: powerful and delicate. Often, you don't know you are being influenced until it is too late. Whether you realize it or not, however, the influence of those you spend time with has a powerful effect on how you will end up in life, on whether you will succeed or fail.

What we call peer pressure is simply this: people with whom we associate exercising their influence on us, trying to direct our lives in the way they want them to go. We should stop telling young people that they alone have peer pressure. Adults have it too. They find it hard to disregard other people's opinions. There are people who are sixty, seventy, and eighty years old who give in to peer pressure; almost everyone is affected by it.

You must be careful whom you allow to influence you because your vision will be either encouraged or destroyed by others. There are two kinds of people in this world: those who are with you and those who are against you. I have learned that people have the potential to create your environment. Your environment then determines your mind-set, and your mindset determines your future. Therefore, you must choose your friends wisely, selecting those who are with you and not against you. Show me your friends, and I'll show you your future.

Questions of Influence

You should generally choose friends who are going in the same direction you are and who want to obtain the same things you do, so you can reinforce one another. In light of this truth, I want you to ask yourself three questions. First, “With whom am I spending time?” Who are your closest friends; who are the people you are confiding in?

Second, “What are these people doing to me?” In other words, what do they have you listening to, reading, thinking, doing? Where do they have you going? What do they have you saying? How do they have you feeling? What do they have you settling for? That last one is an important one, because your friends can make you comfortable in your misery. Most important, what is being around these people causing you to become? Solomon said,

“He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm” (Proverbs 13:20).

The New King James Version reads, “*The companion of fools will be destroyed.*” My version of this aphorism is, “If you want to be a success, don’t keep company with those who are not going anywhere in life.”

For example, if you associate with people who spend more money than they make, the chances are high that you also will spend more than you make. A friend may say, “That new dress came in, and that’s the latest style. You should get it,” when you know you can’t afford it. When she says, “I have mine; do you have yours yet?” You really feel pressured. Another

friend may say, “I traded my car in for a brand new one. You should do the same thing. You have to look right, you know.” The result is that you’re knocked right off your goals—your payments are so high that you can’t save money anymore. Don’t let anyone throw you off course any longer. Decide for yourself, “What are my goals and plans?” And don’t let others influence you to deny them.

Third, ask yourself, “Is what other people are doing to me a good thing in relation to my vision?” When you start telling people where you’re going to go and what you’re going to do, they may (even unconsciously) begin to say things to try to hinder your dream.

You need to ask and answer these three questions for yourself truthfully—and regularly—as you progress toward your vision.

It is an interesting phenomenon that certain people will become angry when you step out and start to do something that they have never done. Friends and associates don’t want you to break out of your situation because they don’t want you to leave them behind. You need to get used to the idea that people may gossip about you and treat you with malice because of your vision. It’s all part of the process! It is often proof that you’re really doing something with your life.

Napoleon Hill wrote a great book called *Think and Grow Rich*. From the title, some people might not think this is an appropriate book for believers to read, but it actually contains many of the principles of the Word of God. Hill made a statement that has really stuck with me:

“The majority of people permit relatives, friends, and the public at large to so influence them that they cannot live their own lives, because they fear criticism. Countless numbers of men and women, both young and old, permit relatives to wreck their lives in the name of duty, because they fear criticism.”

That is a powerful statement. Sad to say, sometimes the people who are the most damaging to the fulfillment of your vision are members of your own family. Some family members may be extremely supportive, but others may not be. This is because they have lived with you for such a long time that they think they know who you are, so they try to talk you out of all your dreams. Your mother may say, “You’d better stay at your job. It’s secure, and it has benefits.” Your cousin may say, “What are you leaving your job for? That’s good money.”

These are forms of attacks on your vision, even if they are well-intentioned. By the time your family has finished telling you all the reasons you shouldn’t follow your dreams, you want to give up on them. In your heart, however, you still have the desire to fulfill them, so you end up frustrated and suffering from things such as high blood pressure.

The potential for negative influences from family members in regard to vision is probably the reason why the Lord told Abraham, “Leave your country; your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you” (Genesis 12:1). The Scripture doesn’t say that Abraham’s wife was present at the time which was probably a good thing. Remember that, later on, Sarah laughed with unbelief when God said she

would have a child. (See Genesis 18:1-15.) Joseph also had to leave his family before he could become what was essentially prime minister of Egypt.

Sometimes, we need to pull away from the influence of even those we love if we're going to follow our God-given visions. Many people want you to be what they want you to be, not what you were born to be, and often they end up limiting you. For example, a family member may say, "I know you—you're just like your mother. She never had any business sense. What do you mean you're going to open a store?"

When you step outside what others expect you to be, they begin to see you as a problem. However, people who change the world have declared independence from other people's expectations. That's what makes them successful. Even if people lie about you or start rumors about you, keep your eyes on the mark, continue working, and keep on building. Your passion has to be more powerful than the opposition of those around you. You must be clear about what you're going to do and persevere in doing it.

Principles

- We need other people if we are going to be successful in life.
- Train people always around you so that you will not overwork yourself because tomorrow needs you.
- Dreams do not work, not because they are not great,

but because they lack properly laid systems.

- If you have no dream, or if you do not begin to act on it, the people who are supposed to help you won't know where to find you.
- You must be careful whom you allow to influence you because your vision will be either encouraged or destroyed by others.
- If you want to be a success, don't keep company with those who are not going anywhere in life.
- Sometimes the people who are the most damaging to the fulfillment of your vision are members of your own family.
- When you step outside what others expect you to be, they begin to see you as a problem.
- People who change the world have declared independence from other people's expectations and opinions.

Chapter 12



The Power of Faith

I believe that the greatest gift that God gave humankind is not the gift of sight, but the gift of vision. Why? Because Sight is a function of the eyes but vision is the function of the heart. Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. It is that tendency of believing, that inward confidence that what was said is true and will happen

Faith is an earthly currency which buys products from the super market of heaven and we can only become what we believe we can become, provided you think it, you will be it. I am convinced that most people have sight but no vision. Physical sight is the ability to see things as they are. Vision is the capacity to see things as they could be, and that takes faith.

The Bible says, “*As [a person] thinks in his heart, so is he*” (**Proverbs 23:7 NKJV**). We must never let what our eyes see determine what our hearts believe. “*For we walk [“live” NIV] by faith, not by sight*” (**2 Corinthians 5:7 NKJV**). In other

words, we are to walk according to what is in our hearts. We are to let what is in our hearts dictate how we see life.

Faith is one of the greatest principles that will make your dream work. Your Faith must be in God and not in your surroundings. Turn your fears into faith at all times, Seasons come and go, what you do in them is what matters; the word of God is the only force that causes something out of nothing. (*Proverbs 23:7*)

Romans 10:17; *“so then faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word.”*

The degree of the persuasion about the existence of God between the born again and non-born again is distinguished by faith. When you have the seed, you cannot know the potential it carries until you plant it. The word of God is the seed, when you open it, what comes out of it is a force called Faith.

Seeing by Faith

If you are operating by sight, you see the problems and challenges all around you. You see how many bills you have to pay; you see that your company is downsizing; you see things that threaten your security. Sight without vision is dangerous because it has no hope. Many people have been living by sight alone, and that’s one reason they have all kinds of medical problems—muscle tension, migraines, high blood pressure, heart disease, ulcers, tumors, and so on. Living by sight can kill you. Life is so full of depressing things that you

need to learn to live by vision and see with the eyes of faith.

Remember that sight is the ability to see things as they are, and vision is the ability to see things as they could be. Let me ask you a very simple question here; do you need to know how medicine heals a patient? If you have malaria, and you gulp tablets, is it your concern how the medicine will work? You just nip the medicine. After some one, two or three days, you eventually feel better. That is how the word of God operates. Healing is an internal process.

As long as you maintain your Faith, it does not matter who comes your way, you may lose the battle along the pathway, but you will finally match out as a champion. My prayer to God always is that if everything goes, God should establish my Faith, of which He has honored over and over again.

The Bible is very clear that *“without faith it is impossible to please God” (Hebrews 11:6)*. If you try to function in any other way than faith, you will malfunction. That is why worry is ungodly and fear makes your vision short-circuit. You were never meant to be afraid.

Jesus was filled with faith, and He was the calmest person on earth. He slept soundly in the middle of a storm. When His frightened disciples woke Him up, He asked them, *“Do you still have no faith?” (Mark 4:40)*. He was telling them, “If you have faith, you’ll be able to sleep during a storm, as well.” You may be saying, “This doesn’t sound very practical.” It is, however.

I have been living this way—by faith instead of fear—for over 18 years, and it has been so much fun. Sometimes

my wife gets shocked and amazed at the faith of her hubby. When we were expecting our first born baby, we prepared everything just like any other couple would, in expectation of their first born princess. Well, things didn't turn out well as we expected. My wife had to go through caesarian operation. Being an emergency, it got me half-way prepared financial-wise. I wrote a letter to my Organization requesting for an advance SPAN to clear the sanatorium bill. Two months later, the administration commenced deducting their coinage and that meant going for months without any support. And yet I had to meet the family responsibilities and pay mortgage, utilities and other stuff as the man of the home. It was a hard-hitting time for me. I did engage my faith more and God honored it. He supplied and met all the needs according to His glorious riches.

From that time through experience, I don't worry for very long about anything now because I believe that, ultimately, everything is on my side. Even the schemes of the devil work to my benefit. All things work for my good because I am called according to God's purpose. (See Romans 8:28.)

Faith is simply responding to the initiatives of God. When God says go to some place and you start on the journey, it means you are going by faith. I sometimes ponder and admire father Abraham's faith; he was told to leave his land and go where God would show him. He didn't know where he was going, but the Bible says he packed all his belongings and left. I am imagining Sarah and Isaac asking him; "where are we going sir?" "I don't know". He replied. But they kept on going. What a faith! Wow!

In the beginning, everything that is, was in God. Before anything was, it already existed in God. Everything we see existed in the obscure state before God made it evident. So faith is not geared to what does not exist—it relates to everything that is not seen. Faith is “being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see” (Hebrews 11:1). It deals with latent potential—what you yet can see, do, be and experience. Faith says, “I can’t see it, but I believe it is there.” Faith never deals with what you have done, but with what you yet could do.

The mystery of Christian Faith is that, it is in sowing that we reap; It is in giving that we receive; It is in scattering that we gather; It is in lending that we abound and; It is in dying that we live as champions.

God is replete with many things and He’s waiting for you to ask Him for everything you need. But you have to ask with faith, because faith is the paraphernalia that deals with unseen things. Faith is not some eerie and spooky experience. It’s simply knowing that what you can’t see is there.

Can you imagine waking up every day, with all your problems, knowing that whatever you see is not the real story? Can you even imagine living that way—looking not at things that can be seen, but at the things that are not seen? What we see is temporary. It’s those things we can’t see that are eternal. Living by faith requires looking at the unseen, because everything that is, was in God; and everything you could be is in you now, waiting for you to make demands on it by faith in God.

The most important thing on earth.

Nothing on earth is more important than a thought. Thoughts are more important than words because words are produced from thoughts. Yet while thoughts are the most important things on earth, words are the most powerful. This point is crucial to understand because, while thoughts design a future, words create that future. Nothing happens until you start talking about it. You can think about something for twenty years, but that will not bring it to pass. Creative power is not in thoughts alone. It is in the words (and actions) that come from them. Whether those words are spoken or written, they are full of creative power.

Therefore, when you speak words expressing what you see in your vision, your words become creative power to help bring that vision to fruition. However, there is a negative aspect to this truth, as well: You can undermine your vision by what you continually say about yourself, such as “I’m overweight,” “I’m sluggish,” “I’m not intelligent,” “I’m a shy person,” “I don’t like people,” “I’m a failure,” or “I’ll always have debts.” I am. I am. I am. You will become everything you constantly declare about yourself. That is the power of words.

Compounding this problem is the fact that the devil knows God and His ways very well. Satan knows that the key to creating anything is having a clear vision of it and speaking it into existence. He wants you to speak negative rather than positive things so that your effectiveness for God’s kingdom will be annulled. We can help protect our visions by guarding what we say.

If you want to fulfill your vision, you must speak differently than you have been. Instead of saying, “I’ll always have a loan,” say, “I’m going to be debt free.” Can you say that? You may have been imagining that you don’t owe any bills, but you have to start saying it, as well. Say, “My God will meet all [my] needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:19), then pray, “Lord, please perform Your Word,” You have to speak. A vision doesn’t have any power until you talk about it.

Champions do not romanticize the problems of their day or ignore them under a cloak of pseudo-spirituality. Instead they confront life’s vicissitudes by faith in God. They know that faith in God; Conquered kingdoms before and can do it again; Performed righteousness before and can do it again; Obtained promises before and can do it again; Shut lion’s mouth before and can do it again; Quenched power of fire before and can do it again; Stopped the sword before and can do it again; Turned weakness to strength before and can do it again; Made men mighty in war before and can do it again; Put enemy army in plight before, and can do it again and received the dead back to life before and can do it again.

With God is behind you and His arm beneath you, you can face whatever lies ahead of you. Faith that acts will bring your dream interrupters to their knees and send them away. Take the measure in cup of championship and fill it and claim the unlimited victory that God has provided. Open the windows of those fears, worries, and burdens and start trusting God instead of trying God. Faith is thinking and acting according to God’s word, in spite of feelings (within us), or consequences

(ahead of us).

Great Thinking Always Precedes Great Achievement

Successful men and women who have impressed and impacted their generations weren't "lucky." They didn't just stumble on greatness. They thought great things and expected great things, and greatness found them. Big thinking precedes great achievement. You don't need to be big to think great thoughts. You need to think great thoughts to become big. That is the faith of vision.

You must realize, like I realized years ago, that ideas control the world. Ideas are so powerful that many nations are ruled by the thoughts of men who have long since died. When I went to University of World Mission Frontiers, most of the books I read were by people who are no longer living. I spent hours and hundreds of dollars studying their ideas. A vision is an idea that is so powerful that it can live beyond the grave. Your own vision should outlive you. In order for that to happen, however, you can't keep your ideas to yourself. You must clearly conceive and express them.

I'll never forget the time I was grappling with the possibility of writing books. I told God that I didn't want to write because I had no resources and gadgets to write. And more so, many others were writing books, and I didn't want to do it just because everybody else was doing it. I wanted my teaching to be real and genuine. However, when I was

preparing my notes one night for a teaching, I felt as if the Lord was saying to me, “If you do not write, what you know will die with you. If you write down the ideas that I have given you, however, your words will live on after you are gone.” That was enough for me to wake up. That is how this book was born and millions of others coming.

2 Kings 6:16-17, Faith reveals that God is doing more for His people than we can ever realize through sight alone. When you face difficulties that seem insurmountable, remember that spiritual resources are there even if you can’t see them. Look with the eyes of Faith and let God show you His resources. If you don’t see God working in your life, the problem may be your spiritual eye sight, not God’s power.

Your success or failure is determined by how you see. Jesus continually dealt with the sight of the disciples because their sight got them into trouble so often. He wanted them to move from sight to vision, and that is why He taught them about faith through life illustrations such as the fig tree, the feeding of the five thousand, and the raising of Lazarus. (See, for example, Matthew 21:19-22; Mark 6:34-44; John 11:1-44.)

The faith of vision is crucial because the way you see things determines how you think and act and, therefore, whether or not your vision will become reality. Proverbs 23:7 says, *“As [a person] thinks in his heart, so is he”* (NKJV). Do you have sight or vision?

One last thing, if an egg is broken by an outside force, life ends, if an egg is broken by an inside force, life begins. So

great things happen from the inside before they manifest on the outside.

Principles

- Sight is a function of the eyes but vision is the function of the heart.
- Physical sight is the ability to see things as they are. Vision is the capacity to see things as they could be, and that takes faith.
- Your Faith must be in God and not in your surroundings.
- Sight without vision is dangerous because it has no hope.
- Faith is simply responding to the initiatives of God.
- Faith is not geared to what does not exist—it relates to everything that is not seen.
- Nothing on earth is more important than a thought.
- If you want to fulfill your vision, you must speak differently than you have been.
- A vision doesn't have any power until you talk about it.

Chapter 13



Self-Discovery

My calling is sure, my challenge is big, my vision is clear, my desire is strong, my influence is eternal, my impact is critical, my values are solid, my faith is tough, my mission is urgent, my purpose is unmistakable, my direction is forward, my heart is genuine, my strength is supernatural, my reward is promised and my God is real.

If you don't discover yourself through the word of God, situations will suggest what you are not.

Whatever you were born to do, you are equipped to do. Moreover, resources will become available to you as you need them.

What this means is that God gives ability to fulfill responsibility. Therefore, when you discover your dream, you will also discover your ability. God will never call you to an assignment without giving you the provision for accom-

plishing it. If you understand this principle, no one can stop you from fulfilling your vision.

In a world of pessimism, I offer hope; in a world of confusion, I offer truth; in a world of immorality, I offer kingdom values; in a world of neglect, I offer attention; in a world of abuse, I offer safety; in a world of ridicule, I offer affirmation; In a world of division, I offer reconciliation; in a world of bitterness, I offer forgiveness; in a world of sin, I offer salvation; in a world of hate, I offer God's love.

I refuse to be dismayed, disengaged, disgruntled, discouraged or destructed. Neither will I look back, fall back, go back or sit back. I do not need applause, flattery, adulation, prestige, stature or veneration. I do not have time for mediocre standards, small thinking, outdated methods, normal expectations, average results, ordinary ideas, petty disputes or low vision. I will not give up, I will not give in, I will not bail out, I will not lie down, I will not turn over, and I will not quit or surrender.

Ephesians 3:20 says, “Now to him who is able to do immeasurably [“exceeding abundantly” KJV] more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us.”

Many of us have heard this verse so many times that we think we know it. Yet I don't believe we really understand what it is saying: According to his power [or potential] that is at work— where? It doesn't say His power is at work in heaven. It says it is at work in us! God put His vision and His Spirit within us, and that is more than enough potential for

our needs.

I will pray when things look bad, I will pray when things look good, I will move forward when others stand still, I will trust God when obstacles arise, I will work when the task is overwhelming, I will get up when I fall down.

My calling is to reach boys and girls for God; it is too serious to be taken lightly, it is too urgent to be postponed, it is too vital to be ignored, it is too relevant to be overlooked, it is too significant to be underestimated, it is too eternal to be fleeting and too passionate to be quenched. I know my mission, I know my challenge, I also know my limitations, I know my weaknesses, I know my strengths, I know my fears and my problems and I know my God. I will let others get the praise, I will let the church get the blessings and I will let God get the glory. I am a minister, I minister to children, this is what I am, and this is what I do.

A champion in India was asked how he corrected the mistakes of his players; “we Ignore the weaknesses and major on the strengths”, he responded. This is the secret of the champions. Don’t waste your entire life bereaving on your weaknesses. Find your dominant strength. Your greatest strength is a golden gate to uncommon ministry. Luke 22:31-32; Jesus knew the weaknesses of Peter. He knows your weaknesses. He even foreknew before he called you in His service. Refuse to permit yourself enticed and be taken over by the weaknesses. I know of a pastor who confessed to the church congregation that his greatest weakness were women.

Everything you do either moves you closer to something

you desire or moves you away from something you fear. Your fears determine the type of decisions you make. If you fear to carry children, you may never marry, if you fear ulcers, you may never fast. Test your present; it has taken you a lifetime to be here. Moments should be tested. Your life is a special and glorious gift from your creator.

Never rush through life; never do things because others are doing. Stop long enough to drink deep, in each day. Yesterday is in the tomb, tomorrow is in the womb; if you don't know how to enjoy your today, then you will never enjoy your tomorrow and future. Psalms 118:24 *"this is the day..."* James 4:14; Champions don't schedule today with tasks they can do with more excellence tomorrow. They insist that every moment is the moment of Excellence.

Ephesians 3:20 says, *"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably ["exceeding abundantly" KJV] more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us."*

This Scripture changed my life at a point when I wasn't manifesting much of my purpose in life. I grew up with the religious idea that you receive only what you ask for. Consequently, I didn't receive much at all. Then I came to understand that God never promised to give me merely what I asked for. Instead, He said something truly extraordinary: He will do *"immeasurably"* or *"exceeding abundantly"* beyond all that I can ask for, think about, or imagine. In other words, my imagination is not big enough for all that He wants to do for me.

Once I grabbed this reality, it began to transform my perspective. It enabled me to progress from the knowledge of my purpose to the faith that accompanies vision. For example, in my mind's eye, I have already been in the buildings that will be built for *Kingdom Glory Faith Ministries* in accordance with the vision God has given me. In my imagination, I've gone up in the elevator to the tenth floor of the *Kingdom Glory Hotel*. I've been in the Summit Auditorium talking with the youth from all over the world who are gathered there. I have visited the *Kingdom Glory Convention Center (KGCC)*. I believe God will bring this vision to pass. And that is only what I can imagine. God has even more in His own imagination for the completion of this vision!

You must understand that God will never call you to do something that He hasn't already given you the ability to do or that He won't give you the ability to do when the time comes. You shouldn't allow any other human being to judge your potential. Others may not be able to see your purpose, and your abilities are determined by your purpose. Again, whatever God is causing you to dream is a revelation of your ability. Responsibility is really "respond-ability" or the ability to respond to the requirements of your vision.

You have the potential

In Creation, God gave trees the ability to reproduce themselves through their seed. By doing this, He was commanding trees to come out of seeds. First, He put the potential for the trees in the seeds. Then He told humankind, in essence, "If

you plant the seeds, putting them in the right environment, they will eventually become what I put in them—their potential—fully grown trees.”

Our lives are like seed. We were born with the potential for the fulfillment of our destinies that have already been established within us. When God gives a vision to someone, He’s simply calling forth what He put into that person. This is why you can always determine what you can do by the dream that is within you. Plant the seed of your vision by beginning to act on it and then nurture it by faith. Your vision will develop until it is fully grown and bears much fruit in the world.

Take a “virtual tour” of your dream. Imagine all the details of the completed vision. Then let God know that is where you want to go. Ask Him to enable you to take your idea from dream to full-fledged reality. I have always confessed that one day, I am going to own my Private Aircraft/Jet (MRPJ) parked at Entebbe International Airport. I have a picture of it my mind, but also went ahead and printed it out and it hangs in my closet wall. I look at it every morning, afternoon and evening. I say to myself; “That is where I am going”.

One day as I was flying to Ghana, I took a tour at Entebbe International Airport just to check where my jet will be parked. Now, that was faith of the highest order when I didn’t even have an automobile. God appoints, anoints, and distinguishes people. He doesn’t like them to get lost in mediocrity. God gives us dreams to deliver us from mediocrity and to reveal our true selves to the world. The ability to accomplish your vision is manifested when you say yes to your dream and

obey God.

Principle

- If you don't discover yourself through the word of God, situations will suggest what you are not.
- Whatever you were born to do, you are equipped to do.
- Don't waste your entire life bereaving on your weaknesses. Find your dominant strength.
- Test your present; it has taken you a lifetime to be here. Moments should be tested.
- You must understand that God will never call you to do something that He hasn't already given you the ability to do.
- We were born with the potential for the fulfillment of our destinies that have already been established within us.
- Take a "virtual tour" of your dream. Imagine all the details of the completed vision.

Chapter 14



The War Within

Life is fragile,” Hold on with Prayer”; Temptations are expected,” be alert”; Trials will come,” have patience”; Mistakes are sure, “learn from them”; tears will fall,” don’t lose courage.”; People may leave you, “stand still”. Problems do not come to destroy you, but to reveal the champion in you. The strength of your character is tested by how you affect other people. If you take care of your habits, your habits will take care of your destiny.

This is the story of a young man in a certain city who was a devoted Christian. He came to a Pastor for counseling and this is what was shared:

“Last night I woke up in the middle of the night, the entire place was dark and I remembered the mess I had slid into. I thought I should pray to God to help me out. But as I made to get out of bed, I noticed I was sandwiched between the wall and a woman. I wondered where I was. Then it hit me. I

had wandered into a restaurant the previous night just to say hello. The proprietress was not in, and so the girl had served a lot of snacks, food and some drinks. We went on to play cards and joke. My initial intention was to preach the word of God to her, but she was so warm in welcoming me and so excited, that my resistance diminished as I basked in the comfort and warmth of her company. Before I knew it, it was already far into the night and she persuaded me to stay. I sat up by the snoring girl wondering how I would explain this to my wife. At about four this morning I dashed home, only to lie to my wife that I had missed the last bus while we were praying with a troubled family.”

What is the problem? This man claimed to have initially fought to remain holy, yet he finally failed. We see people embrace faith in Christ with great joy and enthusiasm. In the first two weeks after accepting the Gospel, their old weaknesses and failures seem to have been jettisoned. They seem to have now found new strength to overcome all the impediments that try to come in between them and God. They are propelled with a new zeal and insist that “with God all things are possible.” They tend to speak in absolute terms.

Unfortunately, (and really this is unfortunate because it seems to apply to all Christians) soon after those early weeks in Faith, the old seems to creep back and begin to rear its ugly head. The deeply repentant become introspective and quite down to find out what are going on. A true walk with God is full of such experiences. Clearly, when we become Christians, not only the old goes and the new comes, but part of the new comes the inner struggles to remain faithful. What

a war within!

There are even people who are discouraged from coming to Christ at all because of their sins. They think that they have to sort out their lives before they can come to him. If Him you are reading this book and you are not a Christian yet, the Lord's invitation is to those that are "weary and burdened", those who need His rest. (Matthew 11:28)

Some Christians think that, once they receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, they will never sin again. By extension if they again fall into sin, they think of themselves as lost, without any more hope. We need to get to know God and to get to know who we are. With all our potential and frailties, once we get to comprehend this and God's way of salvation, we have made a good start on getting out of the quagmire of servitude to sin.

When Adam and Eve sinned in Eden, the essence of their sin was not really that they ate the fruit. The real issue was their attitude to God that made them yield to the devil. The reason was not that God was not there or that He did not speak. Rather, they had turned their back on God and were so focused on the object of their fancy that they did not hear God. In sinning, we turn our backs on God; we turn away from Him in desire for something else. And this is the essence of all sin.

When we sin, we follow the same steps as Adam and Eve when they sinned in Eden:

They desired the fruit: they focused on their own gratification. Satan embellished the evil to make it look good.

They turned their backs to God and ate the fruit. Having been defiled by their sin, they fled from God. In keeping away from God, they were tossed like a rudderless ship in the destructive ocean of sin.

***James 1:14,** "Each of you is tempted when you are dragged away by your own evil desire and enticed".*

Satan does not tempt any one with what they do not desire. Really, it is not common to catch a 99- year old woman committing adultery! This other is only a welcome guest. Sometimes the devil kick starts the process by presenting us with opportunities that appeal to our habitual fantasies and so create a desire. I have simply defined the word temptation as the whetting of the appetite for real or imagined gratification. During temptations, the devil does a lot to make sure that our minds are upset in order to keep us from hearing from God.

Combat in the heavenly realm

I would like to share here a story of someone who once served the devil and is now saved.

This man was born after his parents dedicated themselves to Lucifer. After his conception, they made so many rituals dedicating him to serve Lucifer. At age four, he began exercising his spiritual power. And his parents began fearing him. At age six, his father surrendered him to the occultists to be trained. And by ten years, he was doing great things in the kingdom of the devil. He was feared by the ordinary occultists.

He was still a young boy, but he was so dreadful in the

things he did. He grew up to be a young man in his twenties with so much bloodshed on his hands, killed at will. He had the aptitude to go out of his body through transcendental meditation. And he could glide. Sometimes his body would lift off the ground and stay in the air. And sometimes he could go into a reverie and come out of his body; his body would remain behind, and he would go out into the world, this is called astro-travelling. And this guy was used by Satan to destroy so many churches, to break down many churches and to destroy many pastors.

One day, he was assigned to destroy a church that was full of prayer. There were so many divisions in this church and many confusions. And he began to work on this church. But at that time, the pastor called a fast for the whole church. As the church began to fast, there was a lot of repentance and a lot of reconciliation. And the people came together, and they began to pray for the work of the Lord in their midst. And they continued interceding and crying to God to have mercy and intervene in their lives. And as the days went by, this man was coming again and again with demon spirits against this church. But there was a word of prophecy that came telling the Christians to rise up and to wage warfare against the powers of darkness that were attacking the church.

So, one day, this man leaves his body in his room and goes astro-travelling. He leads a mighty force of demonic spirits against this church. His spirit was moving in the air over the church and trying to attack it, but there was a covering of light over the church. And suddenly, there was an army of angels that attacked them and there was fighting in the air, and all the

demons fled, but he was arrested by the angels.

Yes, arrested by the angels! He saw himself being held by about six angels, and they brought him through the roof right before the church altar. There he was, and the people were praying. They were deep in prayer in spiritual warfare, binding and breaking and casting out. The pastor was on the platform leading the prayers and the warfare. The Spirit of the Lord spoke to the pastor, *“The yoke has been broken, and the victim is there before you. Help him through deliverance.”* As the pastor opened his eyes, he saw this young man on the floor, adjacent the pulpit. His body was with him; he was in his body. The young man says he doesn’t know how his body joined him; he had left it in his house. But there he was in his body, he didn’t know how he had entered in except the angel had carried him through the roof.

Now these things are difficult to believe, but the pastor silenced the church and told the church what the Lord had told him and asked the young man, *“Who are you?”* The young man was trembling as the demons began coming out of him. So, they prayed for deliverance, and afterwards he began to share his life. This young man has now come to the Lord and is an evangelist, preaching the Gospel. He is being used by the Lord mightily in setting other people free through deliverance.

The people who don’t pray, can be taken in anything by the devil, and there are ways that the enemy exploits their lives and their prayers. The enemy knows even how to exploit their prayers of those people who don’t know how to pray. We need to teach the people how to use the spiritual armor

that God provides.

This young man would go with other satanic agents and lots of demon spirits into the air. It was like a shift, you've got to go and work your shift. So regularly he had a time he had to go and wage war in the firmament. And he said that in the firmament, in the spiritual realm. If the land is covered under the blanket of darkness, that blanket is so thick, it is like a rock. And it covers the whole area. And these spirits are able to go on top of this as well as below this blanket. And from that level, they influence the events on earth.

When the evil spirits and human satanic agents leave their shifts, they go down on earth at the points of covenant, even waters or on the land at the points of covenant for refreshing of their spirit. And how do they refresh their spirit? By the sacrifices that people give at these altars. They could be sacrifices in open witchcraft, sacrifices in bloodshed of all types including abortion, including warfare and human sacrifices and animal sacrifices. They could be sacrifices of sexual immorality where people go into sexual perversions and all kinds of promiscuity. And these sinful acts actually give strength to these evil powers. And there are many different types of sacrifices.

He said that when satanic agents are up in the heavenly realm, and the Christians begin to pray on earth, the prayers of the Christians appear to them in three forms. All prayers appear like smoke that is rising up into the heavens.

Some prayers appear like smoke, and it goes drifting along and disappears in the air. These prayers come from people

who have sin in their lives and they are not willing to deal with it. Their prayers are so weak, they are blown away and disappear in the air.

The other type of prayer is also like smoke that rises up until it reaches this rock, but it does not break through the rock. These are usually people who try to purify themselves, but they lack the faith in what they are doing as they pray. They usually ignore the other important aspects that are needed when someone prays.

The third type of prayer is like smoke that is filled with fire. As it rises up, it is so hot that when it reaches the rock, the rock begins to melt like wax. It pierces the rock and goes through.

Many times, as people begin to pray, their prayers look like the first type, but as they continue praying, their prayers change and become like the second type of prayer. And as they continue praying, suddenly it ignites into fire. And their prayers become so powerful, they pierce through the rock.

Many times, the evil agents would notice that prayers were changing and becoming very close to the state of fire, then these agents would communicate to other spirits on earth and they tell them, *“Distract that person from prayer. Stop them praying. Pull them out.”*

And many times, Christians yield to these distractions. They are pressing through, they are repenting, they are allowing the Word to check their spirit, Faith is building up. Their prayers are becoming more focused. Then the devil sees their prayers are gaining strength and the distractions begin.

Sometimes in the middle of very intense prayer, the telephone rings and you think you can go to answer the phone and then come back and continue praying. When you come back, you go back to the beginning. And that's what the devil wants.

Other kinds of distractions come your way, even if it means touching your body and bringing some pain somewhere. Even if it means making you hungry and you want to go to the kitchen and fix something to eat. As long as they can get you out of that place, they have defeated you. Pastors, you must teach your people how to pray. Set aside some time, not for just some casual prayer. They can do that the rest of the day. Once in a day, Christians should have a time when they are focusing wholeheartedly on God, nothing distracting them.

And if people persist in this kind of prayer and allow themselves to be inspired in the spirit and keep going and keep going, something happens in the spirit. The fire touches that rock, and it melts the rock! When the melting begins, it is so hot, no demon spirit can stand it. No human spirit can stand it either. They all flee. They all run away.

Then there comes an opening in the spiritual realm. And as soon as this comes, all this trouble in prayer stops. The person who is praying on the ground just feels like prayer is suddenly so smooth, so enjoyable, so powerful and intense. And I've discovered at that moment, we normally lose conscience of time and other things. Not that we become disorderly. God takes care of our time. But it is like you lay down everything, and you hook up with God. With prayers going through, from that moment there can be no resistance at all, and the

person praying will continue as long as he wants. There is no resistance that can stop him.

And after he finishes praying, the hole remains open, and he said that people, when they rise out of their place of prayer, and they walk out, this open hole moves along with them. They are no longer operating under the blanket. They are operating under open heavens. And he said in that state, the devil cannot do what he wants against them. And the presence of the Lord is like a pillar from heaven resting on their lives. They are protected, and there is so much power inside that pillar that as they move around, that presence touches other people. It discerns what the enemy has done in other people. And as they talk to people and those people are standing with them, they come inside this pillar. And as long as they stay inside that pillar, all the bondages of the enemy weaken.

So, when these people who have this spiritual breakthrough share Jesus Christ with the sinners, their resistance is low. It is so easy to bring them through. When they pray for the sick or pray about things, the presence which is there makes all the difference. And this man said the devil hates such people. And if there are places where prayer is regularly being prayed through like that, the presence comes upon that place and does not leave. So even the people who don't know God, when they come into this place suddenly all the bondages are weakened.

And if someone cared to just minister to them patiently and with love, they can easily be pulled through, not by power nor by might but by the Spirit of God, who is present. And if no one bothers about these people, they come into his

presence, they feel convicted, they begin to debate whether to yield or not, but if they are not pulled through, when they walk away from this place, bondages get stronger. And the devil tries his best not to allow them to come back into such an environment.

Now to people who had broken through in prayer. This young man says, they marked such people; they studied such people. They dug up everything they could find about such people. So, they knew their weaknesses, and when someone overcomes them in prayer and breaks through, they communicate with other spirits and say, *“Target him with this and with this. These are his weaknesses.”* So, when this person walks out of the prayer closet, the spirit of prayer is upon him, the presence is upon him, his spirit is high, the joy of the Lord is his strength. As he moves the enemy tries to bring those things that can distract him from focusing on the Lord.

If his weakness is in the area of temper, then the enemy is going to cause people to do things that anger him. And if he is not sensitive to the Holy Spirit, and he gets angry, then he takes his eyes off the Lord. And being angry, he feels so furious, and after a few minutes, he wants to put that behind him and move along in the joy of the Lord, but he doesn't feel it anymore. He tries to feel good again; he doesn't feel any good again. Why? As he yielded to the temptation, they worked hard to close the door upstairs. And once they restore the rock, the presence, the Eden, is cut off.

The person does not cease being a child of God. But that extra anointing that goes on his life, that presence that could do things without him manipulating anything, it's just cut off.

Because the evil spirits seek out where your weaknesses are.
A war within!

If a person's weakness is sexuality, then the enemy will prepare people, events, something that will suddenly draw out that person's sexual passion. And if that man yields to this temptation and opens up his mind to receive these thoughts, entertains them, then when he is through with everything and wants to move again in the anointing, he just discovers it is no longer there. Maybe you say, "That's not fair." Just remember what the Bible says, "Put on the helmet of salvation. Put on the breastplate of righteousness." We normally do not see the need for these weapons of warfare. But remember Jesus told us how to pray "Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one."

Every time you have a breakthrough in prayer, as you come to the end, remember you are still a weak human being. Remember you have not yet been perfected. Ask the Lord, say "Lord, I've enjoyed this time of prayer, but when I walk out into this world, lead me not into temptation. Don't allow me to walk into the devil's trap. I know the enemy is setting a trap out there. I don't know what form it is going to take. And I know I am still weak in certain areas. If I am just put in the right place, I will yield to that. Protect me, Lord. When you see me turning that corner where the trap is, just cause me to turn to the other side. Intervene, O Lord. Don't allow me to move by just my own strength and ability. Deliver me from the evil one."

God is able to do it. So, if something bad happens, that gets your eyes off Jesus, just say "Thank you, Jesus." That's why

the Apostle Paul wrote “Thank God in everything.” Some things are not good. They are painful, and we wonder why God would allow it. But if only we knew what He is saving us from, we would thank Him. When we learn to trust the Lord, we just thank Him in everything.

And this man says that when one breaks through in prayer, the answer always comes. He didn’t know a case where prayer broke through and the answer did not come. He says the answer always came, but in most cases, it would never get to the person who asked. Why? Because of the Battle in the firmament. And the answer may be hindered if they can successfully cut off the open heavens and restore the rock.

Here is a startling thing that this young man says. He says that every Christian has an angel serving that him/her. Now we know the Bible says angels are ministering spirits to us. He says that when people pray, the answer comes in the hands of the angel. The angel brings the answer, just like we read it in the book of Daniel. Then he says; if the one who prays knows the spiritual armors and is clothed with them, the answer comes by an angel who is also clothed in full armor.

But, if the one who prays doesn’t care about spiritual armor, then their angels come without spiritual armor. Christians who don’t care about what kind of thoughts come into their minds. They don’t fight the battle of their minds. Their angels come without the helmet. Whatever spiritual weapon you ignore on earth, the angel doesn’t have it as he serves you. In other words, our spiritual armor is not protecting our physical bodies; it’s protecting our spiritual exploits.

When the angel is coming, the evil spirits would focus and look at him and notice the areas which are not covered, and those are the areas they would attack. If he has no helmet, they would shoot at his head. If he has no breastplate, they would shoot at his chest. If he has no shoes, they would try to make fire to burn its feet.

Now, I know this is hard to believe. You may be asking yourself now, “Can angels feel fire?” Remember this is a spiritual realm. These are spirits dealing with spirits. The battle is intense, and when they overpower an angel of God, the first thing they target is the answer he is carrying, and they take that from him. And these are the gifts that are given through the cults, through witchcraft.

Remember what the Bible says in the book of James? All good things come from God. So where does the devil get the things he gives to his people? Some people who cannot have children, they go to witch doctors and Satanists, and they get pregnant! Who gave them that baby? Is Satan a creator? NO! He steals from those who don’t pray to the end.

In the Bible, Jesus said, “*Pray without ceasing.*” And “*when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith?*” Will Jesus find you still there waiting? Or will give up and let the enemy steal what you prayed for?

And they are not satisfied with just stealing the answer. They are also interested in detaining the angel. And they start fighting him. Sometimes they succeed in holding and binding the angel. When that happens, the Christian is a victim on earth. They can do anything with that Christian because he

is totally left without ministry in the Spirit.

A friend of mine; Apostle John Mulinde asked this young man one time when he reached at this point in his narration. “Do you mean an angel can be held in captivity by demonic forces?” Now he was just sharing his experiences, and he said, they wouldn’t hold the angel too long because as other Christians prayed elsewhere, reinforcement would come, and the angels would go free. If the Christian responsible did not pray through, he remains a captive. Then the enemy sends his own angel as an angel of light to this person, and that is where the deceptions come in. False visions and false prophecies. False leadership, leading and guiding and making all types of wrong decisions. And many times, this person is open to all kinds of attack and bondages.

God spoke to Apostle John Mulinde about what we are supposed to do as these things are happening so that we can overcome. Three important things.

One: How to operate with the weapons of our warfare. The Bible calls them the armor of God. It is not our armor; it is God’s armor. When we use it, we allow God to fight on our behalf.

Two: Understand the relationship of the ministering spirits-the angels-to our spiritual lives. And to be sensitive to what is happening in our hearts, as a leading to what needs to be happening in the spirit concerning us.

Thirdly the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is not supposed to come as our servant, serving us and bringing things to us. He does not run to and fro to the Father to tell Him what we

need. That is the work of angels. But He stands by our side. Doing what? Guiding us, teaching us, leading us, helping us to pray the right way. And when these things are happening in the spiritual realm, He tells us, sometimes He wakes you up in the night and says, “Pray.” You say, “No! My time is not yet come.” And He says, “Pray now!” Why? He sees what is happening in the spirit. Sometimes He says, “Tomorrow-fasting!” You say, “Oh, no, I’ll start on Monday!”

But He understands what is happening in the spiritual realm. We should learn to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. He guides us in the paths of righteousness.

You’ve got to learn to breakthrough in prayer, to maintain your breakthrough once you have scored it. Hallelujah! There is enough of God’s grace, and enough power for victory.

Principles

- If you take care of your habits, your habits will take care of your destiny.
- when we become Christians, not only the old goes and the new comes, but part of the new comes the inner struggles to remain faithful.
- Satan does not tempt any one with what they do not desire.
- Know how to operate with the weapons of our warfare.
- Understand the relationship of the ministering spirits-the angels-to our spiritual lives.

- The Holy Spirit is not supposed to come as our servant, serving us and bringing things to us. He does not run to and fro to the Father to tell Him what we need. That is the work of angels.

Receiving The New Birth

If you have not been born again, that is the step you must take before you can become a Kingdom citizen and receive eternal life. This is why Jesus came. He came not only as the one who announced and broadcasted the coming of the Kingdom, but also as the one through whom we gain entrance to the Kingdom:

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16).

Receiving the new birth is not a difficult process.

1. Acknowledge that you are a sinner in rebellion against God: *“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23).*
2. Understand that the penalty for sin is eternal death: *“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 6:23).*
3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins so that you might be forgiven: *“But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8).*

4. Confess your sins to God: *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).* To confess your sins means to agree with God regarding your sins.
5. Repent of your sins: *“Unless you repent, you too will all perish” (Luke 13:3).* To repent means to make a clean discontinuity with sin, a 180-degree reversal of direction.
6. Confess Christ as your Savior and Lord and give Him control of your life: *“If you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved” (Rom. 10:9-10).*

The secret of conception

Conception is a clandestine process invisible to the naked eye. When you and I were conceived, nobody was watching, probably, except God. In other words, when the process of birth began, it was secret. Jesus said that the new birth is like the wind; no one can see it. Likewise, citizenship is not a visual reality but a disposition.

In **John 3:8** Jesus says,

“The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

When you give your life or surrender your life to the King and He gives you a new birth, no one sees that. It may happen at an altar, on the flight, at home, at school; wherever you receive Christ, the process is invisible. The new birth involves believing, and no one can see you believing. Belief, like conception, is invisible.

Sometimes the new birth is accompanied by a feeling and sometimes it isn't. Everybody is different, so everybody's response to the new birth will be different. Feeling something is not the point. The point is that spiritual conception took place and internal change is in progress and underway. When a woman conceives, her clothes don't change. She doesn't even realize until sometime later, she begins to realize that something is going on.

The same thing happens spiritually. When you are born again, you surrender to Christ. Some weeks later it suddenly dawns on you that you don't enjoy sin anymore. That's change. That is a sign of the new birth. You have been born again. That is why it's impossible now for you to sin and feel the same way about it as you once did.

In fact, sin eventually becomes a trepidation and terror to you. Why? Because that is not your nature anymore. You've been born from above. And your Kingdom citizenship began the moment you were born again.

As I bring this book to an end, I would like to open an altar call for you to re-establish your connection with Jesus Christ. I would like you to understand this truth: Jesus Christ cleanses us, the Father forgives us, and the Spirit renews us.

The writer of the book of Hebrews wrote, quoting Psalm 95, “As the Holy Spirit says: *‘Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion.’*” In other words, if you hear his voice, if you feel his conviction, if you hear him saying, “It’s time,” then do not harden your heart because there is going to come a day when he will stop calling you. The Scriptures speak about God as long-suffering or patient; it doesn’t say that he is forever-suffering. He will allow foolishness for a long time, but only for so long.

The term apostate refers to someone who has entered a state where he can’t hear the Spirit of God anymore. You don’t want the Holy Spirit to stop convicting you. If the Holy Spirit convicts you about your need to repent, receive forgiveness, and enter the kingdom of God, you should run to him! Why? Because that means you are still in good relationship with him, and he is able to talk to you. Don’t let your pride prevent you from responding because you wonder what people will say. You should rather worry that the Spirit will stop talking!

The Holy Spirit convicts people and enables them to be spiritually reborn.

I hope that you will listen to the most important person from heaven, who is the most important person on earth! He is vastly more important than angels, which many people hope to see. Angels, however, work for the government, but he is the government.

If you can hear him now say; “Its time”, go ahead and whisper these words to your father in heaven:

Dear everlasting Father, I acknowledge that I am a sinner; I believe that you willingly sent Jesus to take the punishment for my sins on the cross and I call Him (Jesus Christ) to come and be the savior of my life today. Remove my name from the book of death and write my name in the book of life. From today, I promise to walk with you, all the days of my life, until I see your face in paradise. Thank you, Jesus Christ, for the gift of salvation. In Jesus' name! Amen.

If you confessed these words for the very first time, you have now started a journey of Christianity. I confessed those words years ago at age twelve and that became a crucial turning point in my life. You can write to us using the address at the back page of this book and let us know about that awesome decision you have made. God bless you! Shalom!

★★★

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- 1. Discovering The Purpose Of Your Existence.**
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