

STAND UP AND STAND OUT

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Life is all about vision, mission, principles, commitment and focus. Jesus proved it when he came and lived on earth for 33 years. He knew His mission and committed Himself to it while living a principled life based on truth, love and the laws of God. He succeeded largely to these truths outlined. You need these in your life to succeed and especially as a true child of God.

Standing up and standing out, speaks of you standing up for what you believe, your vision and mission here on earth like Jesus did, and standing out from the crowd of the people of this world, and daring to be different by upholding the principles of God's word and living for God's glory.

John 1:11-13

11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God- 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

NIV

2 Cor 5:17

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

NKJV

2 Cor 5:20

20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.

NIV

2 Cor 6:14-18

14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? 15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

KJV

First, you must ask yourself, who are my? Why are my in this world? What is my God given assignment here on earth? What are my expected to live for or achieve during my life time on earth? When you prayerfully in the presence of God find

the answer to these questions, then you have found your mission on earth, and you must pursue it with zeal and commitment without losing focus.

Rom 8:28-30

28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. 29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

NIV

KNOW THIS:

1. You were created to live for God's pleasure.

Rev 4:11

11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

KJV

2. You were redeemed to live for Jesus who died for your redemption and salvation.

2 Cor 5:15

15 And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

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3. The Holy Spirit was given to you to lead you in the plan of God for your life, and you must submit to Him if you want to succeed.

Rom 8:14

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

KJV

4. Your talents and gifts were given to help you fulfill the purpose of God.

Matt 25:15-18

15 To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. 16 The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. 17 So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. 18 But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

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Prov 18:16

16 A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.

KJV

5. Your training and skill will bring you before great men.

Prov 22:29

29 Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.

KJV

6. Your specific calling and anointing determines what you live for and how you live your life.

1 Cor 12:28-29

28 And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues.

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Eph 4:11-13

11 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, 12 to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

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7. Adequate attention should be given to your profession and career as well as your spiritual responsibilities and calling. None should suffer for the other. It is a case of "giving to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's".

Matt 22:17

17 Then he said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."

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Secondly, you must stand out from the crowd by recognizing the fact that you belong to God's kingdom and not the world, and that the two kingdoms differ from each other. They are two parallel lines that never meet. Therefore, you must stand out from the crowd.

NEVER FORGET THIS:

1. You belong to God and not to the world.

1 Cor 6:17-20

17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. 18 Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that commiteth fornication sinneth against his own body. 19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

KJV

- 2.** You must drop the mentality of a sinner and take on the mentality of a son of God.

Rom 12:2

2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

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Eph 4:23

23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds;

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- 3.** Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world.
 - Don't imitate sinners.
 - Do not take them as role models.
 - Don't copy their lifestyles or dress codes.
- 4.** Accept the words of God and live by them.

Matt 7:24-27

24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

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- 5.** Let the word of God form your principles in life and live by it with dogged commitment.
- 6.** Let all know you are a Christian and committed to your Saviour and Lord.

Matt 10:32-33

32 "Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. 33 But whoever disowns me before men, I will disown him before my Father in heaven.

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7. In thoughts, words, dressing, lifestyle and all that you do, stand up for Jesus and stand out from the crowd.

Col 3:17

17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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