

# THE PURSUIT OF DIVINE PURPOSE

## (Part 3)

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### YOU NEED WISDOM

*“By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures”. (Prov.24:3-4 NIV)*

*“Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense and profit wonderfully by keeping abreast of the facts”. (Prov.24:3-4 TLB)*

Wisdom should be the basis of any task God puts into your hands. With wisdom or wise planning you are billed to reign in life. When others are stranded, you are still taking sure, purposeful steps. This is because you are putting the mind of God in you to maximum use. Wisdom declares,

*“By me kings reign, and princess decree justice”. (Prov.8:15 NIV)*

You can only be successful in your pursuit of divine purpose through wisdom - wise planning and good sense.

Your mind is very important and crucial in the achievement of your objectives. It therefore needs to be developed. And you develop it with the word of God. In Luke 2:40, 52 we are told,

*“And the child (Jesus) grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.”(Vs. 40) “And Jesus increased in wisdom (mentally) and stature (Physically), and in favour with God and man”. (Vs. 52)*

If Jesus needed to grow in wisdom in order to accomplish his mission on earth, then you too need wisdom. You need to develop your mind with the word of God.

Wisdom is a tool for promotion and honour. It was wisdom that promoted Joseph from prison to the palace as the prime minister of Egypt. It was wisdom that lifted up Daniel, Meshach, Shadrach and Abednego to the leadership positions in the land of Babylon and Persia. Wisdom is what you need to make it to the top.

*“Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding. Esteem her, and she will exalt you; embrace her, and she will honour you. She will set a garland of grace on your head and present you with a crown of splendour”. (Prov.4:7-9)*

*“My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find*

*knowledge of God. For the LORD gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.” (Prov.2:1-6)*

*“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy one is understanding.” (Prov.9:10)*

Get wisdom and she will exalt you in life. Hold her fast and she will lead you to great honour; she will place a beautiful crown upon your head. Wisdom will give you prudence; it will fill you with knowledge and discretion. Wisdom will make you walk wisely. It will help you to judge rightly; wisdom will make you know what to do at every point in time. It will guide your steps to success and greatness.

### **PLAN WELL**

Nothing just happens, things are made to happen. Making things happen requires a plan. That is why you need to get one before you can succeed. Planning is imperative to success. It is often said that to fail to plan is to plan to fail. There are no two ways about this.

A plan is an articulated action, steps showing what to be done, possibly in a sequential order, to arrive at a set goal or vision. A plan can be safely called a guide to fulfillment and success. Every well-organized institution has a plan. Schools have it, so do governments and nations. You also need a plan to succeed.

Basically all planning revolves around 5 questions.

#### **1. What?**

This seeks to clarify the goal or the target to be accomplished. This is like determining the end from the beginning.

#### **2. How?**

This is a question of methodology. There may be over fifty ways of going about the same goal. Facing this question, you prayerfully choose the best option from all the alternatives open to you.

#### **3. Where?**

This is a location problem. Having decided on the approach to give your goal, you need to state the place(s) where they are to be carried out.

#### **4. When?**

A plan is incomplete without a time tag. There must be a time fixture to the action steps you have outlined. Without this, progress will be difficult to measure.

#### **5. The where withal or what is the means?**

Reaching a set goal will require a lot of resources. The bigger the goal, the larger the resources you need for accomplishment.

You need to plan on how to get the necessary resource that may be required. The above analysis shows that planning is a rational and intelligent exercise. No wonder the Bible says:

*“Any enterprise is built by wise planning, becomes strong through common sense, and profits wonderfully by keeping a breast of the facts”. (Prov. 24:3-4 TLB).*

Plan well, and you will be successful. Follow your plan through till your goal is achieved. Do not hesitate to change the plan of action, if it is not producing the desired result.

In making your plan, pray much about it, and depend on the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Having discovered the purpose of God for your life, settle down to plan how to accomplish that purpose. Set smaller goals that are achievable. Set a time limit within which to achieve each smaller goal; and before you know it, you have accomplished the purpose of God for your life. Plan well, and work with your plan, and success will be yours.

### **DETERMINE TO SUCCEED**

Determination to succeed has to do with a firm decision – unwavering decision to succeed. Determination is firmness of purpose, resolution. For you to succeed, you need to be resolute about succeeding. You need to be firm in your decision to fulfill the purpose of God for your life.

Surely, obstacles, hindrances will come your way. The enemy will always rage against you, but will not succeed if you know how to walk in the covenant. Determination to succeed means, that you will not be scared or moved by any adverse circumstance.

*“Those who trust in the LORD are like mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures for ever”. (Ps. 125:1)*

You need to trust the LORD with all your heart for favour, blessing, strength, wisdom, and support in your pursuit of divine purpose. When the going gets tough, trust him with all your heart and believe you can make it. Do not accept setbacks to mean defeat. Always believe that no matter what, you will still make it to the top.

Be determined to succeed. You may not get the financial help you need to start what you want to do or money to pump into your already existing business, do not let that disturb you. Believe you can make it, believe that somehow the Lord will help you and you will succeed in accomplishing the purpose of God for your life.

Are you in search of a job, admission or contract? Be determined to succeed. You don't need to fear or be discouraged that you don't know anybody to help you secure what you want. It is true you need people, but when they are not available, God becomes your only help. Never get discouraged, but look up to God and he will not disappoint you. What you need is God. And he is on your side. He will help you. You will succeed in getting the job, admission or contract you want, if only you will determinedly trust God with all your heart. Be determined to succeed, and you will succeed.

You will become whom God destined you to be. You will fulfill the purpose of God for your life. You will attain the height that God has destined you to attain in life. You will accomplish that which God has destined you to accomplish in life. Pursue the purpose of God for your life to a successful completion. You will definitely succeed.

# DO YOU WANT YOUR BUSINESS TO GROW? THEN ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:

1. Do I really want improvement?
2. How can I improve on my Services?
3. What can I (we) do better?
4. How can I (we) respond faster to customer's request? Urgency is important.
5. How can I (we) be easier to deal with?
6. How can I (we) be less expensive?
7. How can I cut cost without reducing the quality?
8. Are there better materials that I (we) can use for my (our) product?
9. Is there a better marketing strategy that will make us do better?
10. Why didn't I progress as projected?
11. How do I improve the skills and productivity of my staff?
12. How do I retain the customers that God has graciously given me?

## FIND A JOB YOU LIKE TO DO

If you need a job, or you are bored with your present job, you need to find a job you like to do.

1. Decide exactly what kind of a job you want. If the job doesn't already exist, perhaps you can create it.
2. Choose the company or individual for whom you wish to work
3. Study your prospective employer, as to policies, and chances of advancement.
4. By analysis of yourself, your talents and capabilities, figure what you can offer, and plan ways and means of giving advantageous services, developments, and ideas that you believe you can successfully deliver.
5. Forget about "a job". Forget whether or not there is an opening. Forget the usual routine of, "Have you got a job for me?" Concentrate on what you can give.

6. Once you have your plan in mind, arrange with an experienced writer to put it on paper in neat form, and in full detail.
7. Present it to the proper person with authority and he will do the rest. Every company is looking for men who can give something of value, whether it be ideas, services or has a definite plan of action which is to the advantage of that company.

## SUCCESS TIBITS

1. **The greatest men in History are men who walked with God with an open, sincere and obedient heart.**
2. **True riches are not cash and material things, but spiritual – It is the quality of life that one has with God through Jesus Christ that is true riches.**
3. **“Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possesses.” (Luke 12:15)**
4. **Don’t let your past tie you down. Keep looking and focusing on where you are going.**
5. **Vision gives direction to life, and makes life meaningful.**
6. **“All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty” (Proverbs 14:23). Put your dreams to action.**
7. **Your mouth is a fountain of life creating your world. When you change your language, your world will change. Most importantly, your thoughts give birth to your words, so watch what you think.**
8. **Rage is not a sign of greatness or maturity, but immaturity and foolishness.**
9. **A heart at peace (free from worries, envy, hate, bitterness and fear) gives life to the body. But where these abound, mental, emotional, spiritual and physical oppression is experienced – Sickness and demonic afflictions are inevitable.**
10. **“Misfortune pursues the sinner, but prosperity is the reward of the righteous.” (Proverbs 13:21)**
11. **“He who ignores discipline comes to poverty and shame, but whoever heeds correction is honoured.” Proverbs 13:18)**
12. **“The faithless will be fully repaid for their ways, and the good man rewarded for his.” Proverbs 14:14)**
13. **“Wealth is worthless in the day of wrath, but righteousness delivers from death.” (Proverbs 11:4)**
14. **“Honour the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.” Proverbs 3:9-10)**
15. **“If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land; but if you resist and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword.’ For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”**

## RENEWING THE MIND

1. The force behind your words is your thoughts.
2. Every feeling is only a reflection of the thoughts that run through your mind as you encounter people and events.
3. Every man is an actor merely acting out the thoughts of his mind.
4. Your life reveals what goes on in your mind.
5. Uncontrolled thoughts make keeping of promises to live pure and holy difficult and a mirage.
6. Hate, envy, worries, fear and bitterness are mental prisons that men ignorantly build and bound themselves in, which make it impossible for peace, joy, success and heavenly blessings to find expression in their lives.
7. Your mind is the gateway to your tomorrow. What goes on in your mind determines your attitude and direction in life and general experience.
8. God never meant the mind to be a prison, but as an instrument for greatness.
9. Your mind either generates energy for living, or drains it.
10. Your opinion of yourself is more important than people's opinion about you. Assess yourself based on the word of God about you. Have a good image of yourself no matter what.

## WISDOM FOR ASSOCIATION

1. How you package yourself is how men will see and know you.
2. How you relate and conduct yourself can make people's opinion about you to change for good or for evil.
3. The dominant character and behaviour you put forth determines the name men call you.
4. Secrecy strangles life out of a sweet relationship.
5. Problem solvers make lasting friends and create opportunities for themselves to make it in life.
6. Be out on your way to do good to people, and good will meet you along the way.
7. You need people to succeed. So always treat people nicely, for you don't know what help that person may render to you tomorrow.
8. In any relationship where forbearance and forgiveness is lacking, breakage is inevitable.
9. Insincerity, lack of commitment and unforgiveness are the bane of many relationships.
10. Before striking off the idea or opinion of your friend or partner, put yourself in his or her position and see what he or she saw or is seeing, and consider the facts.

