

Maximising Opportunities While you are young

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MAXIMIZING OPPORTUNITIES WHILE YOU ARE YOUNG.

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INTRODUCTION

The scriptures say it is good for a man to bear his yoke in his youth (Lamentation 3:27). If you waste your youthful season today, you will cry in old age. You are in a season of your life where opportunities are boundless and limitless. How you maximize this moment of opportunity will determine what the next phase of your life will be. Your youthful season is a planning and preparation phase for the next phase of your life. It is the phase where you build principles and develop a mindset for a superior way of living. It is the period when you build a road map for your destiny. I want you to know that not every opportunity a man encounters in life can be called common or a coincidence; some are divinely orchestrated by God, but when a man is barren of knowledge, he will suffocate all divine opportunities on his way and recycle a season of pains all through the journey of his life on earth.

In this book, you will learn how to make the best use of your life for God and for the benefit of humanity. Your life will become a tremendous asset, not only to yourself but to the world at large. The wisdom in this book will make it impossible to live a frustrated and unfulfilled life. The wisdom of God in this book will break every limitation in your life and make your life a sign and a wonder.

Be blessed.

CHAPTER 1

REMEMBER GOD

Don't let the excitement of youth cause you to forget your Creator. Honor him in your youth before you grow old and say, "Life is not pleasant anymore." ***Ecclesiastes 12:1***

"Remember your creator in the days of your youth" (Ecc. 12:1).

The Bible is saying to us, 'Remember God now,'' not when you have finished partying and ruining your health with drugs, alcohol, and tobacco, so that you say, "Well, I'm sick now. I'd better go find God." God wants you to remember your creator early so that He can set you on course for your entire life. Some of you know what I'm talking about because you've been there and now regret it. Others might not be using harmful substances, but you know how you are ruining your life by making all manner of wrong decisions.

Put God first, and He will take care of everything else. What do I mean when I say to put God first?

Give your life to him. Spend time talking to him. Let him be your best friend. Read His Word, fellowship with Him, and let Him make you the kind of person He designed you to be.

You will discover at the end of your life, after you have chosen to run after everything, that God is the center of everything. You will discover that a life without God is a total waste and emptiness. You must always remember that in the beginning there was God, and after you leave this earth, there will always be God who rules over the affairs of men. Let everything in your life revolve around God. Don`t pursue that career and drop God behind; don't pursue that marriage and drop God behind; don't run after money and push God behind. You will soon discover that you are pushing aside the most important factor in your life.

I will round up this chapter with this word of God, particularly for you:

When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you. Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

Deuteronomy 8:10-14

CHAPTER TWO

DISCOVERING GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOUR LIFE & HAVING A VISION FOR YOUR LIFE

The richest place in the world is not South Africa's gold mine; it's not the Nigerian oil wells; and it's not the United States of America's silver mine. Rather, it's the cemetery.

The cemetery contains millions of ideas, visions, and dreams that were not fulfilled, books that were not written, songs that were not sung, cars that were not manufactured, buildings and towers that were not constructed, and so on.

God's will for your life is for you to die empty, leaving this world fulfilled as Jesus did on the cross and saying," It is finished." As Apostle Paul said, "I have fought the good fight, I have run the race, and I have kept the faith."

In discovering God's purpose for your life, there are five basic questions you must find answers to:

Who am I? Identity

Where am I from? Heritage

Why am I here? Purpose

What can I do? Potential

Where am I going? Destiny

If you are yet to find answers to these questions, your life is only an experiment without a clear future or end.

Let's analyze the questions.

"Who am I?" is a question of identity. Many young people who don't know their true identity. They live the way others live, talk the way others talk, and do the things others do. You need to find out who you really are.

"Where am I from?" is the question of heritage. You have to find out where you are from. This does not refer to ethnic background but the source where came from. If you don't know where you are from, you will never know where you are going. You are of God, sent to the earth to fulfil the agenda of God on earth.

"**Why am I here?"** is a question of purpose. You need to find your purpose in life so you can live a purpose-driven life

"**What can I do?"** is a question of potential. Unless you discover your abilities and potential, you will never maximize them. God has deposited something in you for you to impact the world around you, but you've got to bring it out. One of the ways you can discover your potential is by discovering what you love and enjoy doing. What do I mean by this? I mean discovering what brings you pleasure and fulfillment.

"Where am I going?" is a question of destination. You have to know where you are going. If you don't know where you are going, every way will look like the way to go. The greatest tragedy in life is not death; the greatest tragedy in life is a life without a purpose. A dead man is no longer accountable for why he is living. God's greatest desire is for you to discover your purpose for life.

Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand (Proverbs 19:21).

To God, this verse means three things:

Purpose is more important than plans.

Purpose is more powerful than plans.

Purpose precedes plans.

God says your plans for life—your ideas, dreams, desires, career, business, and what you want to study in college—should come after discovering His purpose for your life. God is therefore only concerned with your purpose and not your plans.

WHAT IS PURPOSE?

Purpose is:

The original intent of a thing.

The reason why something was made.

The cause of creation.

Purpose is the reason why a thing exists; it's the desired result for a thing, and it's the source of destiny. The intent of God is the will of God. God is pleased when you discover your purpose for life and get busy doing it. God is only committed to His purpose, not your plans. Whatever God calls for, He provides for. Whatever you were born to do is already paid for.

Finding God's purpose for your life equals finding lasting peace and fulfillment.

The goal of life is not to become rich but to be faithful to your calling.

A successful man is not a rich man; a successful man is a fulfilled man. Wealth provided for your assignment will surely come your way when you pursue the project of God for your life; hence, your money should be used to as a tool to execute God's project for your life.

Until you find out why God made you, you'll never have meaning in life. Purpose is your life.

Ephesians 1:3

"*The Father has already blessed us with all spiritual blessings in the heavens*." The only issue here is that it is trapped in the unseen realm, but you must know how to tap into those spiritual blessings and release them on earth.

Whatever you need to succeed has already been made available. Our spiritual blessings in the heavenly places will only come when we see the reason why they exist: because God has chosen you to fulfil His mandate on earth.

Purpose attracts provision!

When you look into what you're born to do, God releases the required resources you need to do it.

If you discover the reason why God chose you, then everything you need will surely find you.

Your provision comes when you discover your assignment.

What you're born to do will attract what has been hiding from you. Your purpose is the key to the wealth of your country.

Your past or present don't depict your future. You don't need to leave your country to find God's will for your life or to finance it. There is a reason why He's placed you in that nation. You can start changing the world right from where you are. When you find your purpose, the world will come to you.

HOW CAN YOU DISCOVER PURPOSE?

1. **Look in God's manual**. The manual contains the skeletal structure of how a device works. When you look in the manual, you find the intent or reason why the creator created the product.

Then what is the manual for men? The manual for man can only be found in scripture. As you fix your eyes on God's Word, you will find the purpose of your life.

"*He has set eternity in the hearts of men"* (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

2. Partnership with the Holy Spirit

You've got to understand that the work God has given you is a baby (pregnancy), and you're a virgin because you have never done it before. You therefore need His leadership and guidance.

You have to involve the Spirit of God (the Holy Spirit). God will never give you an assignment that does not involve Him. If you can succeed in what you're doing without God, then it's not a God thing.

3. Association

You need to be around people who will make your baby leap (Mary and Elizabeth). Don't keep company with barren people who are trying to talk you out of your dream. "Show me your friends, and I'll tell you your future." Choose people who'll help you get to where God wants you to be. Keep company with people with vision—people who are also carrying a dream. Make a choice to be purpose-driven today.

4. Fulfilment Matters

What is that thing that brings you fulfillment when you do it for yourself or for the benefit of others? It can be found in your purpose. Purpose is the stream of pleasure found in your heart and expressed by your spirit to others. It's something you could die doing, even if nobody is ready to pay you. When you understand all that is written

above, your purpose will come alive. Your purpose will keep you busy and focused, and it will bring you value and differentiate you among the crowd.

HAVE A CLEAR VISION FOR YOUR LIFE

Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay. Habakkuk 2:2-3

When you don't have a vision for your life, everything becomes an open door. When you don't know where you are going in life, people will take you where you don't want to go. Many people have become escorts of other people's destinies because they have no vision for their own lives.

Vision brings stability to your life; vision brings focus to your life. When you have a vision for your life, you will discover that there are certain relationships that just need to leave your life, and you will discover there are certain places you will never want to go again. You will discover that you begin to get uncomfortable with mediocrity and laziness. Vision keeps you awake in the night. Vision allows you to be time-sensitive.

Remember that a vision is not the same thing as a goal, such as building a house, buying a sports car, or having a million dollars in the bank. Having a purpose and vision has to do with your life's existence. It enables you to answer the question, "Why was I born?" While you can't know all the ramifications of your life, which

God may reveal to you in eternity, you should have a good idea of the purpose He has given you to accomplish on earth. Without it, all you're doing is existing.

Your vision is a clear conception of something that is not yet reality but that can exist. It is a strong image of a preferable future. This means that the present is not enough; something else is needed. You should never settle for what you currently have. In fact, a true visionary irritates those who want things to remain as they always have. Vision is always pushing the envelope. It demands change by its very nature.

When you don't have a concrete vision for your life, you may not even recognize some opportunities that God will bring into your life. Having a vision for your life helps you maximize times and seasons. You begin to think ahead of your peers. Your vision will surely determine the kinds of friends you want to have around you. When people have no vision, they submit to whatever comes their way. Gossip, envy, and jealousy are the common parameters of people without vision. Now that you are young, Have a concrete vision for your life and a clear direction for it. Don't be a confused young man; don't be a confused lady. When you have a vision for your life and you are committed to the vision, you become a man or a woman of value. In fact, having a clear vision for your life can tell you the kind of person you are to marry. Vision distinguishes you from others; it puts a mark of honor and dignity on you. Whatever God has called you to be and whatever purpose you have been called to fulfill, make sure you have a clear direction for how to make it a reality. It is your vision that gives you the strategy to fulfill your purpose.

Chapter 3

The Gift of a Man

A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men. Provb 18:16

There is nothing that gives me such a mind boost as reading this part of the scripture. The Bible says the gift of a man makes room for him; do you really know what that means at all? It means no matter how tough the situation of life or the economy of your nation, regardless of your location or tribe, if your gift is discovered, developed, and deployed in an excellent way, it will create a room (opportunity) for you, and it does not finish there; it will also make you stand before great men.

Look into your Bible; you will encounter men who discover the power of what is lying within them and make use of it to change circumstances in the face of the earth. What do you want to say about Joseph with his gift to interpret dreams, Daniel with divine intelligence, David with excellent skill in leadership, Solomon with the gift of creative wisdom, and the Apostle Paul with the gifts of intelligent writings that the body of Christ depends upon today? Of the 27 books in the New Testament, 13 or 14 are traditionally attributed to Paul.

The easiest way to find your way in life is to find your area of gifting. There is a special gift that God has given you to wow and bless the world. Our individual gifts are an indicator of our purpose, and until they are discovered, nurtured, and developed, we will continue to travel another man’s journey. Of all the paths that can take a man to high places in life, there is only one that seldom fails, and this is

the path of our gifting. Against popular belief, our gifts and passion, not our degrees or certificates, are our tickets to high places in life.

Rev. Sam Adeyemi said, "You will only shine in the area of your gifting.'' Education can never take the place of your gift; an individual gift is an indicator of our purpose and calling in life. Any education that does not teach us to discover, develop, and deploy our gifts and uniqueness to solve problems is a waste. Education will never make you wealthy; it will only provide a platform to express your gifts. Real wealth lies not in your educational qualifications; real wealth lies in your gift.

The Place of Competence and Excellence

Just as the Bible says the gift of a man makes room for him, I want you to know that a discovered but undeveloped gift is just as useless as an undiscovered gift. You can never become a profitable servant with an undeveloped gift. Just as gold in its raw state is not really attractive until it passes through fire, so is an undeveloped gift. Until gold passes through fire and the refining process, that is when it commands the attention of men, so a man with unsharpened skills and potentials cannot stand before great men and kings until he diligently educates his callings, sharpens his giftings and potentials, and develops himself to deliver with his giftings and skills excellently. Serving kings requires a level of competence and excellence with a high level of precision. The quality of your competence in serving your gifts will determine the quality of the people you serve. So, discovering your gifts is not enough in the competitive market of today's world and reality; they have to be sharpened and developed. That is why you see that not every gifted person is successful.

The difference between them and those that are successful is just the mercy of God and the kind of training these people exposed themselves to on a daily basis in order to refine and educate their gifts. Are you on the downside of life today? Are you on the verge of giving up on yourself? I

want you to know that your life is not useless; you were not created as an empty vessel. There is something great lying deep down inside you, calling you to breakout into becoming what God has called you to be. You came into this world highly loaded, and you must empty all that God has put inside you here before you leave.

CHAPTER 4

HAVE A SOLID PREPARATION FOR YOUR LIFE

Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the field; and afterwards build thine house. Proverb 24:27

Sometimes ago, in one of my speaking engagements, I spoke about the importance of preparation, and I have decided to put it in this book.

Nothing good can happen by itself. Success cannot happen by itself; success is not accidental; it has to be intentional. Anything of value, of course, comes with a price. You cannot make predictable progress in life without attaining the posture of sacrifice.

Looking at the above Scripture, it says, 'Prepare thy work without''

Even the scripture cannot neglect the word 'PREPARE'. The scripture says, Prepare your work without... This is due to the fact that preparation is a work.

Many times, I hear many believers' quote: 'Time and chance happen to them all' but this kind of confession is not balanced.

If I say time and chance happen to them all and I sit down all through my life doing nothing, that will make me the most miserable man on earth because time does not change anything but only reveals. Time either reveals your preparation or lack of preparation. Don't be deceived all through your lifetime and say "Time and chance happen to them all''.

When the scripture says 'time and chance' what it means is that ''OPPORTUNITY'' will come to everyone, but when opportunity cannot meet preparation in your life, the outcome will always be a season of recycling of pains and disappointment.

A future you didn't prepare for cannot manifest by itself or by magic.

Preparation is a seed of manifestation; the tougher your preparation, the brighter your manifestation. God has actually given you His word that you will be great, but it won't happen by magic; it will only happen through partnership. God has His own responsibility to perform; you also have yours to perform. The fulfillment is in His hands, but the preparation is in your hands. God operates in the realm of the Spirit; you operate in the physical realm.

I have seen many anointed, gifted, and skilled men who are full of potential but disappointed in life because of a lack of preparation. Actually, you cannot rush preparation, but you may decide to short-live your manifestation. Many times, God has answered our prayers, but our lack of preparation hinders the manifestation of

our prayers. Anyone in life who will stand the test of time must go through a season of preparation.

Sometimes what we call delay in our eyes is not delay; it is God trying to prepare us for the great journey we have ahead of us. God is so righteous in delaying us because He knows that when these opportunities and events unfold, we are most likely to blow everything out because there is not enough capacity to enhance the opportunity, so He introduces a season of delay. Don't misquote me; I don't mean all delays come from God; the devil (demon spirits) and human interference and cooperation can also introduce delays into someone's life. But if all these are cast out by prayers and the authority of God's words, and delay still remains, it could be a message from God that you need to use that season to prepare for greater opportunities that will soon unfold in your life.

Stop guessing about life; you cannot confront life with boldface alone; you need to sit down and prepare for the journey ahead.

If you remember the dream of Joseph, he talked about the seven years of plenty and the seven years of famine. I think this really relates to us as young people, because the first season of our lives is full of abundance of strength, vigor, and vision that we can use to work, plan, and think and prepare for the later season of our lives (famine season). Famine season is a night of your life where you can hardly work because your strength is no more strong like before, your mobility is reduced, and your work rate has been grossly reduced because your body is getting older. Now, what determines your survival in this season of your life is actually what you use your abundance season to do.

The season of abundance in your life is not a season to play away time; it is a season to build capacity.

Are you building capacity at all?

Are you building your spiritual capacity?

Are you building your emotional capacity?

Are you building your mental capacity?

Are you building your relational capacity?

Are you building your financial capacity?

Some of us need to stop buying clothes and start investing in our minds. You need to start buying and studying books on leadership, finances, spirituality, relationships, entrepreneurship, and how to communicate effectively. It is unfortunate that today we have graduates who don't know how to communicate their thoughts and ideas.

You need to educate yourself about your calling so as to maximize every moment of your destiny. A transformed life is always a product of a transformed mind. You must make sure that at every stage of your life, you are always upgrading and updating yourself. Sometimes, you may need to attend personal development seminars, master classes, and conferences. You may also need to pay for a class. Whatever is going to make you experience personal growth and whatever is going to add value to your life, make sure no day passes without doing it.

One of the things you must not joke with in your life is financial education. Finance is one of the reasons why many destinies are crippled; it has made many lives and visions handicapped. Money is a resource tool that can help us be efficient in fulfilling our destiny, while a lack of it can cause a big distraction for you for the rest of your life. Unfortunately, this is not taught in school, so you need to take responsibility for your life by going out of school walls and learning how to make, manage, and multiply money by buying necessary books, getting necessary information, going to different finance conferences, or paying for a master class in order to stay updated and know what is expected of you in this current world to make money.

Financial education is the development of financial intelligence; it is the understanding of money and the inner workings of it. It is understanding the principles, strategies, and laws of wealth creation, entrepreneurship, and financial freedom.

Sometimes, you may need to give yourself some time off from the pressures of this world and find a proper place to invest in your life. Never underestimate what personal growth can do for your life. Growth is like a magnet; it can attract many good things into your life. When you are spiritually, emotionally, and mentally sound, you are always ready to maximize every opportunity that comes your way.

While you are young, whether you are on campus, serving, or already a graduate, maximize the moment by learning skills that can give you an edge in the digital age. Skills like software development, motion graphics design, animation, content creation and management, website development, social media marketing and

management, copywriting, virtual assistants, and so on in today's world, don't be a youth without any skills; always be adequately prepared. Don't let your destiny helper meet you in emptiness, doing nothing. Always be prepared.

Let me round up this chapter by sharing this short story just to inspire and motivate someone reading this book.

In the year 2018/2019, I was led to write a book titled "Rescue the Teenagers" and give it out for free to youth and teenagers all around the world. The book went viral, and many lives were blessed, touched, and delivered by the hand of God. In 2021, I got a message from a non-profit organization in the United States stating that they would love to sponsor the republishing of the book in the United States with an estimated thousands of dollars for publishing and marketing. That was how "Rescue the Teenagers" became an international book and is found on different global platforms today. Why? This is because the season of preparation encounters the season of opportunity. Assuming I gave an excuse when the Lord was leading me to write the book or procrastinating from year to year, I would have missed the season of my opportunity. May you not miss a turning point in your life and destiny, in Jesus' name.

CHAPTER 5

GOOD CHARACTER SECURES YOUR DESTINY

Good character is the best insurance; crooks get trapped in their sinful lust proverb 11:6

I want you to know that your character can either be a blessing to yourself and others or a curse. Character is like a magnet; it can attract good people and good things into your life, and it can also repel great things away from you. That is why having a great destiny is not enough; you must have a good character. A great destiny without a good character is like a crack in the wall. It is just a matter of time; it will soon crash.

As Dr. Myles Munroe says, "A person of character does not live with popularity but with principles. Leaders must have character because people won't follow you if they can't trust you. character attracts loyalty''

Character is a commitment to a set of values.

A CHARACTER is a commitment to a set of STANDARDS.

Character is a self-imposed discipline to a good moral standard.

A good character has integrity.

A person of character locks himself in the prison of his own conviction. Your future depends on your character, not on your charisma. The only thing that protects your gifts and destiny is your character.

You can be gifted, talented, intelligent, and excellent at what you do, but if you lack character, nobody will want you in their lives. Nobody wants a gifted rebel in his or her life. In every organization, more than being excellent at what you do, people want to see your faithfulness and loyalty. If you lack the virtues of integrity, honor, respect, discipline, and humility, don't blame people if they stay far away from you.

Could it be that the reason why favor and some good things in life are far from some people is because they lack character despite being prayer warriors? Do you know a man can get a good job and promotion just by displaying the virtues of honor, respect, and humility? When you greet people, you greet them well. You don't greet in a mannerless way and expect people to answer you. Pride repels good things and good people away from you, but practicing honor attracts favor into your life. Nobody has an antidote against honor. When you honor people with your heart genuinely, they will find themselves just being attracted to you for no reason. Why? Because honor is a magnet, it pulls good things into your life.

Sometimes, I hear people complain about how they chatted with someone online and the person saw it and never responded. So, my most available answer is: What is the content of the message about? Does the communicated honor, especially when you are chatting with someone who is older than you. You can't chat with someone in a mannerless way and expect to get a response. Nobody has that expensive time to allow uncultured people into their lives. You are chatting with someone who is supposed to be your boss at work or older than you early in the morning, and you are saying something like "Hi". "How far" and "What's up" are the first greetings, and you get angry when they don't respond to your message. This alone has actually

revealed a lot about who you are to them and how you will misbehave when they give you a little position of influence. When you want to greet people, greet them well. Words like "good morning" and “good afternoon" should not be far from your mouth.

Another thing you must learn is the importance of integrity in building a good character. Integrity is not who we are when people are watching us; it is who we are when no one is watching us. This can be achieved with the help of God. Without integrity, people cannot trust you, and when people don't trust you, they can't commit great things to your hands. Integrity with time, integrity with money, integrity in business, and integrity in every important aspect of life really matter.

In addition to integrity, you must add loyalty to your life as a virtue. No matter how great, skilled, or gifted you could be, when trust and loyalty are lacking in your life, no one will be able to trust you with something of worth. I have discovered that in this kind of decaying world, loyalty, trust, and integrity are getting very scarce. People hardly trust anyone because they have once trusted people who betrayed them and almost destroyed them. Nobody wants a gifted rebel in their life. There are great people who don’t really care how skilled you are; all they want to see is stability in your

character; they want to see trust, loyalty, and commitment over the years. They want to see if you are not going to mismanage their money; they want to see if you are not

going to disclose their secret pains to other people when they open up their wounds to you. They want to know if you are not going to stab them in the back after they've fully opened up about their lives to you. They want to know if you are not going to take them for granted for who they are.

If all these virtues are lacking in your life, men will only hire you to solve problems for them but will never commit something great to your hands. Build yourself up to become someone people can trust and confide in. You must build yourself up to be dependable; I am not necessarily saying you should be perfect.

It was said of Joseph:

Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one as discerning and wise as you. You shall be in charge of my house, and all my people are to obey your commands. Only with regard to the throne will I be greater than you." Genesis 41:40

People can only commit great things to your hands when they can trust you. Have you developed enough capacity to handle great things intelligently? Do you have those virtues that can make you stand before kings and serve unashamedly?

Can God trust you?

Can people trust you?

Finally, learn appreciation. One of the characters that has destroyed so many Africans is entitlement mentality.

In life, you must early discover that nobody owes you anything in this life; the earlier you discover this, the earlier you rise up to take responsibility for your life, and you must also understand that nobody is responsible for your predicament in life.

Our outcome in life is a result of the choices and decisions we make, and decisions decide destiny. If peradventure people go out of their way to help you or assist you, count it as divine privilege and don't take it for granted. You must learn to eradicate entitlement mentality; it has destroyed many lives. Entitlement mentality is a very bad life to live. Learn to show deep appreciation and gratitude to God and to men. Learn to say thank you.

Gratitude and appreciation bring multiplication, while a lack of gratitude brings demotion, stagnancy, and backwardness. I believe you are blessed.

Chapter 6

DON'T DOWNPLAY THE ADVANTAGE OF GOD'S FAVOR IN YOUR LIFE

There the child grew up healthy and strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on him. Luke 2;40

This is a very powerful topic I want to discuss with you here, and I don't want you to take it lightly.

Have you ever looked not far from you and observe to see people who are educated, skillful, intelligent, hardworking and diligent and even backed up with good character and attitude and yet it seems nothing is not just happening with them, it is as if all doors are close against them. They labored from morning to night, only to eat the bread of sorrow. And if you also look not far from you, you will also see someone who hardly managed to graduate from school, who failed different courses, and even has an extra year in school or a repeated class and after leaving the shores of the school world, ten years later it is as if they move forward in life with a speed of light. Dear friend, I want you to know that there is this grace called favor. Not everybody is a thief, not everybody is a yahoo, not everybody is a scammer, and not everybody is a ritualist. There are people living their best lives on earth today who are products of God's mercy and favor, not fraud. It doesn't matter the background you came from or the economy of the country you reside in when the favor of God is upon you; it makes life unfair because it changes your life like day and night. You become the envy of men, and everything you touch prospers.

So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. Romans 9:16

What is Favor?

Favor is an unusual access, favor is an unusual acceptance, and favor is an unusual kindness and benevolence. Favor is when people are really ready to sacrifice their time, commitment, giftings, connections, and resources to that which will contribute to your lifting, visibility, and fulfillment of your destiny in life. If this is your experience in life, you are highly favored by God. It is not enough to find favor before God; you must find favor before men, because men are the direct channels through which God reaches out to you to help you.

Life without the favor of God is harsh; that kind of life is full of pain, anger, and *bitterness towards God and men.*

Take a look at what the Bible said about Joseph:

The LORD was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. When his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD gave him success in everything he did,

Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned.

From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the LORD blessed the household of the Egyptians because of Joseph. The blessing of the Lord was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field. ***Genesis 39:4-9***

That is what the favor of God does in a man's life; it distinguishes you, it brings mighty promotion into your life, and the presence of favor in your life can add ten years of speed to your life. Favor is an advantage in this cruel and wicked world. Whatever makes humans forget their own personal needs and focus on your own needs, it must be the favor of God because humans are naturally selfish.

I won't be satisfy in this book if I tell you to get skills, get knowledge, educate your calling, sharpen your gifts and talents, and prepare for opportunities, and then neglect the favor of God. That will be a great disadvantage to you because it is sometimes the favor of God that orchestrates defining moments in our lives that result in our greater breakthroughs.

How to Activate God's Favor in Your Life

1. **Soaking yourself in the presence of God**

When you carry the presence of God, you carry the favor of God everywhere you go because the presence of the Mighty One within your spirit will always attract good things into your life. When you carry the presence of God within you, bad luck will be far away from you. You can't carry God and experience bad luck at the same time. Check this scripture out:

But the Lord was with Joseph and showed him mercy, and He gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph's hand all the prisoners who were in the prison; whatever they did there, it was his doing. The keeper of the prison did not look into anything that was under Joseph's authority because the Lord was with him, and whatever he did, the Lord made it prosper. —Genesis 39:21–23

What does this tell you? If you refuse to bow to your circumstances and continue to be conscious of the Lord's presence, wherever you are placed and whatever your environment, you will rise to prominence. You will have favor with your bosses, and they will promote you to man-in-charge. And whatever you do will prosper!

2. **Practice the Law of Honor.**

Like we have discussed in the past chapter, you must learn how to honor all men. When you practice honor, favor will always be looking for you, because no man is immune to honor. One of the needs of man is to feel valued, loved, appreciated, and honored. When you are practicing and living out all these virtues, people will always be attracted to you for no reason. Practice honor for your parents, boss, friends, and everyone else around you. Learn to greet people well, and learn the common courtesy of saying thank you. Occasionally appreciate people in your life; appreciate that boss who always pays your salary without delaying every month; learn to say thank you. Sometimes buy cards and send them to people with words of appreciation. This is not human worship, but acknowledging the value of people in your life and how they remain so important to you. I tell you, if you are practicing this with your life, there are no available opportunities that will come that men will not first remember you before thinking about anybody. Hornor is powerful.

3. **Be valuable and competent**.

Nobody will look for you if you are not carrying anything of worth, and people will ignore you because you have nothing to offer. You're alone because you're not producing anything noteworthy. Competence is a booster; it will propel you beyond your history, expectations, and constraints. Nobody will be loyal to you unless you

trust God to be a master of something. There is a dimension of leadership that is based on results; people want to see true and replicable results, and doing so requires competence. Competence will pay you again and again; mediocrity only produces beggars.

If no one places a demand on you, it is an indication that your value and contribution are low or not there. When all men seek you out, then you're making a significant contribution that produces results. When all men seek you out, then you're making a significant contribution that produces results. (John 14:6). Nobody invests in your life indefinitely unless it has value.

Skill and competence are the cure to a life of lack. Your value must match the level of hunger and thirst that the people have. When you become valuable, those who need you will find you. When you are valuable and competent, it will be easy to enhance the opportunities God is going to bring your way.

4. **Divine Relationship**

Men are channels through which God sends help to help fellow men. Anytime God wants to help a man, he sends a man. Men are conduits of God's blessings and favor. You can't live your life alone; you need a relationship. Relationships are ladders by which men rise to the top. Both good and bad things flow through relationships. A relationship ordained by God can channel favor into your life.

You have to realize that relationships are the foundation upon which everything grows. A relationship is an investment; if you don't make any, don't count on returns. A man who faces difficulties alone is doomed.

I would like to round up this chapter with this Scriptural reading.

> *I have observed something else under the sun. The fastest runner doesn't always win the race, and the strongest warrior doesn't always win the battle. The wise sometimes go hungry, and the skillful are not necessarily wealthy. And those who are educated don't always lead successful lives. It is all decided by chance, by being in the right place at the right time*. **Ecclesiastes 9:11**

5. **Sow Favorr:**

In other words – show favor toward others. Psalm 112:5 says, "A good man sows favor, and lends: he will guide his affairs with discretion." You will reap what you sow. (Galatians 6:7). Jesus said, "Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy." So be merciful to other people. Sow favor into the life of those that don't deserve it and you will receive favor that you do not deserve. Look for those that cannot necessarily repay you and show them favor and you will activate the favor of God over your life. If you want to activate the favor of God in your life, start giving favor to others.

Chapter 7

THE ASSIGNMENT OF DESTINY HELPERS

One good connection can provide you with everything you've ever desired out of life. It is not enough to have skills and talents; you must comprehend the power of constructing relationships with people who are useful." You must constantly ask yourself these questions: Who am I around? "What exactly are they trying to do to me? What are they trying to get me to read? What do they think I'm trying to say? Where exactly do they want me to go? What exactly do they want me to believe? And perhaps most importantly, what do they envision for my future self? Then you need to ask yourself the important question, "Is this acceptable?" Put yourself in the company of individuals who have a vision of where God is taking you and who are as addicted to your success as you are to seeing them succeed. The trip to the fulfillment of your destiny will involve passion, self-discovery, gifts, talents, prayers, and hard work; nevertheless, the ability to associate with the appropriate people will put the highest demand on your ability to fulfill this journey.

It is not so much the things that you have in your life that matter as compared to the people that you have in your life. The core secret behind exceptional people is that they put in a lot of effort to develop strong relationships with other people. While it's easy to blow away money, cultivating meaningful relationships is a never-ending process.

God is the lifter of men, yet He accomplishes it through the efforts of other men. Someone else is in charge of providing you with the assistance that

you require at this time. It is essential to the fulfillment of your destiny that you have the ability to recognize, accept, appreciate, locate, and celebrate the people that God has allocated to aid you in your journey through life. Some people have difficulty navigating life not because they are lacking in abilities or talent but rather because they are disconnected from the people who can assist them in fulfilling their destiny. There is no such thing as a man who has made his own success. The path to achieving our destiny will place a very high demand on the participation of those individuals who are essential to the fulfillment of our destiny.

There are a lot of people who aren't doing so well as a direct consequence of the fact that certain relationships in their lives are lacking. The same is true for everyone's ability to attribute their success to particular healthy connections in their lives. There are different kinds of relationships or destiny helpers that are extremely important to the accomplishment of one's destiny. They each contribute to our lives in unique and important ways that are complementary to one another. You need discernment and a keen eye to identify these kinds of destiny helpers and then position yourself in such a way as to make the most of the opportunities they present.

1. **Destiny Connectors**: These are the individuals that can provide you with the connections and contacts that are essential to the accomplishment of your destiny. They are the pinnacle of your connection points. They have the ability to connect you to people and resources in a way that your degree and certificate will never be able to do in your lifetime. These are exceptional relationships that can open doors in an instant that your education and experience will never be able to open for you, no matter how long you live. It

has come to my attention that there is a significant correlation between the caliber of your interpersonal connections and the variety of life experiences to which you will be exposed. I want you to know that you need a discerning spirit to identify these people, because sometimes they don't always come in the form you may think of. A destiny connector may be your cleaner at work, your gateman, your housekeeper, or anybody you may never think of. That is why you must be very humble in every season of your life, because pride always closes doors against destiny. A destiny connector may be someone who is not as educated as you are or as rich in knowledge or money as you are, but one word or piece of wisdom from them can change your life forever. If you are in doubt, read the story of Eli and his servant (2 Kings 5). It was just one idea from this slave that changed the entire life of her master. Never look down on men because you may pay for it for the rest of your life. Destiny connectors still exist on earth today.

2. **Mentors of Destiny**: These are the individuals who have the experience and access to opportunities that you require in order to realize your destiny. The simple fact of life is that having a father would get you much further in life. Isaac Newton quoted; "If I have seen farther than others, it is because I was standing on the shoulders of giants." Every successful person had a guide or an advisor who helped them along the path to achieve their goals. Some of the most prominent people in history have had some of the most well-known people of their day pave the way for them to achieve their goals and become successful. Socrates served as a mentor to Plato, who in turn served as a mentor to Aristotle, who in turn taught Alexander the Great. Henry Ford was guided throughout his career by Thomas Edison. William Hewlett, one of the people responsible for founding the HP Corporation, served as a mentor to

Steve Jobs. Maya Angelou, a well-known author and poet who has since passed away, served as a guide and mentor to Oprah Winfrey. Steve Jobs, who had previously served as CEO of Apple Inc., was a mentor to Mark Zuckerberg, who is currently the CEO of Facebook.

3. **Destiny Sponsors**: The individuals whom God has chosen to provide financial support for the realization of your goals are known as "destiny sponsors." Your salary is insufficient to support the vision that God has given you. The funds that you require to continue working on the project that God has given you responsibility for are not in heaven; rather, they are in the bank account of another person.

4. **Destiny Prophets/Pastors**: There is a spiritual altar behind every successful enterprise. To operate at your full potential, you need to be under the blessing of another person. Every person has a prophet in their life who is crucial to where they are going. Be wary of impostors claiming to be prophets, but at the same time, you must put yourself in a position to identify and make the most of the prophet that God has put in your life. Your prayer alone is never sufficient for the fulfillment of God's plan and purpose for your life. Your dreams need to be powered by other people's prayers. In the Bible, the devil wanted to make a mess of Peter's ministry, but Jesus told him that he had already prayed for him. We all need a 'prayer bank' that can fuel and power us towards the fulfillment of God's purpose for our lives.

I pray for you that, in the name of Jesus, you may encounter the right people who will push your life forward in the right place. May the Lord uproot wicked people from your life. You will not miss destiny-defining moments in Jesus' name, Amen.

Chapter 8

BE HUMBLE TO SERVE WITH YOUR GIFTS

When you serve others with your gifts, you are serving God. When you do it for humanity, you're doing it for Him. Jesus said, "If you give a cup of cold water to someone in need, you will surely be rewarded". Every time you serve, God sees it. Every time you help others, you go out of your way to pick up that friend, you come early to sing in the choir, you stay late to train that co-worker, God is keeping the records. Nothing goes unnoticed. He says, "You will surely be rewarded". That word "Surely" means you can count on it. Have no doubt.

Now here's the key. Don't look for people to pay you back. People may not say "Thank you". You may not get the credit you deserve. Nobody may be giving you an applause. Serve others, there is an applause for you in heaven. Almighty God sees your sacrifice. You don't need people cheering you on. You don't need somebody clapping for you. You're not doing it for people, you're doing it for God. He's the one that matters. He sees every act of kindness; he sees you volunteering at the hospital. He sees you working in the nursery each week. He sees you taking your neighbor to their doctor's appointment on your day off. When you serve others, God promises you will be great in the kingdom.

Also, People who don't have the same gifts as us shouldn't be put down or judged for their lack of ability, and we shouldn't brag about our own abilities. All of the gifts

that we have were kindly given to us by God. We do not merit their treatment. Serving the Lord, who is responsible for our salvation, is a high honor and privilege. You also need the gifts that others have to offer, so be sure to acknowledge their ministry and thank them for doing it. With humility, you should serve the Lord and His body.

Finally, don't be envious of the blessings and giftings that other people have. You are exactly who God created you to be, and the tasks that He has assigned to you are critical to the Body of Christ overall health and well-being. We ought to work together rather than compete against one another.

If you want to be effective in serving your gifts to bless other people lives, you must learn to separate title from service, title is actually different from service, service is what really gives meaning to title. Leadership is not Title; service is the true essence of leadership. Therefore, if you want to be great, your entire life must be dedicated in serving God and serving humanity.

Remember, the words of Jesus

Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, Mark 10:43

When you are serving, don’t serve because of money, let your motive be pure and genuine. Don’t be addicted to money. Work to learn. Don’t work for money. Work for knowledge.” Don’t be first looking out for money when serving with your gifts, let your motive first be mastery. There is a dimension in life when you have attained a level of mastery and you have been mastered how to make good use of your gifts, skills and potentials excellently and efficiently, then you will stand before kings and not obscure men. Then, a reward system will be measured unto you because you diligently trained yourself and your gifts. Greatness is always tied to service.

Chapter 9

Living a Disciplined and Ordered Life

Discipline is a great resource for the fulfillment of your destiny. While you are still young, you must work on yourself to be disciplined and live an ordered life. You must know what to do at any time. You need to build a structure around your life that allows for your effectiveness and efficiency. As you grow in life, you need to build a system around your life that disallows and repels mediocrity, laziness, and distractions.

A person who is well disciplined is on track and has orderliness in life. Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishment; hence, it is the key to success. Discipline establishes a good basis for being selective, independent, punctual, focused, encouraged, and staying organized in life.

You must structure the right time for praying, studying, cooking, visiting friends, cleaning your room, and attending church or fellowship. Being a young man or woman doesn't mean your room should be dirty; that shouldn't make your plates and kitchen dirty, smelly, and rotten. Wearing a boxer or underwear for a week is not excellence. When we come to your room, we must meet excellence. Don't live a scattered and disorganized life; it won't help you. Some people are so fond of always finding something important anytime they are going out because there is never a right place to put things; everywhere is just scattered.

Your toilets and bathroom are so neat that it is so convenient for deep meditation any time you are using them; no wonder it is called a convenience room. There are some toilets you enter; you run out of them immediately. Don't live that kind of life.

Learn to be neat and organized. Learn to be responsible and composed.

Start looking like where you are going. Brush your teeth well, barb your hair, and look hygienic. Being a serious Christian brother or sister shouldn't be the reason why you should have body odor and your armpits should be choking and smelling; that is why we have roll-ons and perfumes.

Learn how to dress constructively and excellently; never keep on wearing dirty clothes without washing. If it is one cloth that you have, learn how to keep it clean and well ironed. Don't look like a thief. Let the first impression of you always be catchy and excellent.

How you spend your time should be purpose-driven. When you cultivate this habit, it will make you distinct and unique. Don't just be an ordinary graduate with indiscipline and a disorganized lifestyle. Learn to be excellent in all things, not only in your academics but also in your character. Let the culture of the kingdom influence and affect whatever you do. Learn how to honor people regardless of their status. Your outings must be purpose-driven; don't just say anything goes. Let your life be organized and well coordinated; don't just roam about like a bird around the street. Learn how to eat well and communicate constructively. Before you speak in

a public place, think very well. Let's stop marketing God like a beggarly and weak being. Our God is mighty, glorious, excellent, and worthy of praise.

Chapter 10

Becoming a Friend of Jesus

If you do not know Jesus as your Savior and Lord, simply pray the following prayer in faith, and Jesus will be your Lord!

Heavenly Father, I come to you in the name of Jesus. Your word says, "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 2:21). I am calling on you. I pray and ask Jesus to come into my heart and be Lord over my life according to

Romans 10:9–10:

"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus and shalt believe in thine heart that God has raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth, confession is made unto salvation."

I confess that Jesus is the Lord, and I believe in my heart that God raised Him from the dead. I am now reborn! I am a Christian—a child of Almighty God! I am saved! *You also said in Your Word, "If ye then are evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: HOW MUCH MORE shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him*?" (Luke 11:13).

I’m also asking You to fill me with the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, rise up within me as I praise God. I fully expect to speak with other tongues as You give me the utterance (Acts 2:4). In Jesus’s name, amen.

Now, start praying in tongues as the spirit leads.

For help, counseling, and prayer, you may contact me at: **+2347033984333**

ABOUT THE BOOK

The scriptures says it is good for a man to bear his yoke In his youth, lamentation 3:27. If you waste your youthful season today, you will cry in your old age. You are in a season of your life where opportunities is boundless and limitless. How you maximize this moment of opportunities will determine how the next phase of your life will be. Your youthful season is a planning and preparation phase of your life. It is the phase where you build principles and develop
a mindset for a superior living of life. It is the period you build a road map for your destiny. I want you to know not every opportunities a man encountered in life can be called common or coincidence, some are divinely orchestrated by God but when a man is barren of knowledge, he will suffocate all divinely sent opportunities on his ways and recycle pains all through the journey of his life on earth.

In this book, you are about to encounter what will transform your life around permanently. The anointing on this book will not only open your eyes to recognize opportunities as a young persin but will emphasize on how to prepare ahead of them before they come. May your life never remain the same. Amen

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Agbele Emmanuel Idowu
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He holds a Degree in Animal Science and a Masters Degree in Development communication. He is also a certified communicator in persuasion and motivation strategy A potential Young Man who caught an Encounter with Jesus Christ to Reveal Him to this Present Young Generation. He has a lot of passion for Young People and bringing them to Christ with a Great Transformation of Lives. He was the former President of Christ power campusfellowship, Lautech.

He is the co-ordinator of Kingdom Youth International, he is the Pioneer of Rescue the Teenagers Outreach, which first was first hosted in Owerri, Imo state, Nigeria 2016. Where He visited many high schools and speaks to more than three thousand teenagers during his Youth service.

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He is the major Writer on the Christian blog
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His Hope in writing this book is to encourage, motivate and encourage young people in realizing their great potentials in Christ Jesus and bringing forth transformation of lives for Gods kingdom on earth and Transforming agents for Nations at large.

