The 7 Ingredients For a Meaningful Life



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1) PURPOSE IN LIFE: - Purpose is the reason for doing a thing. It is the original intent for a pursuit. Many people go into things blindly. Many students have gained admission into the university to read courses that they were not cut out for. That is why we have so many struggling students. That is why we have many professionals who are not fulfilled.

A sense of purpose helps you to harness your resources for your fulfillment. Many are jacks-of-all-trades and master of none. Some God given resources are being wasted because purpose is not discovered. I pray that we don't get to heaven and start regretting. **Paul said that I may not be ashamed at his appearing**. Some will be ashamed at his appearing because they never took time to discover the purpose for their lives.

What is your purpose for living? The fore going question, dear

beloved, sums up the above message, now we are going further on how to discover purpose. Nobody knows a product as well as its manufacturer does. Nobody understands a car as well as its owner does. Nobody can know you better than your creator. You are God's product, God is the one who understands you best. You come directly from him. Therefore nobody can understand you better than he does. In order to discover your purpose, you must spend quality time with your creator, you discover purpose by spending quality time with your creator. **The bible says in Isaiah 40:31 but those who hope in the lord will renew their strength.** They that wait on God shall discover their purpose. Discovery of purpose is the beginning of success, don't miss it from the foundation level. Foundation problems are difficult to solve. If the foundation is faulty what will the righteous do? Wait on God, so as to discover purpose, in order to avoid problems at the foundation level.

One of the greatest traps in destiny is pursuing goals and purposes other than what God intended for you, 80% of Africans are afflicted with this problems. When you start doing what you were not meant to do initially, you have automatically signed for a life of struggle. God will never give you the grace in the area of which he has not given you the potential. When purpose is not clear, life is ridiculed. When purpose is not destiny is indefinite. You need a well-defined purpose to live a good life, no enterprise can attain great heights without a well-defined purpose. Purpose gives focus. Why do you want to travel out? If you do not know the purpose of going there, you will become a ridicule. Life without purpose is an experiment many are performing experiment through their lives. God is a God of purpose Eccl 3:1, reads: there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven. **In Romans 8:28, the bible also says: 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.**

Anyone who ever made it in life had a well-defined purpose. Jesus Christ understands the purpose of his coming that is why not could dissuade or discourage him from his calling. He declared in **Isaiah 50:7 because the sovereign Lord helps me, I will not be disgraced, therefore, have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame**.

Without purpose, shame is inevitable. That will not be your portion in Jesus name. Nothing in life wishes to be done, be it to get married, start a business, establish a career etc. If you go by the circumstances surrounding you, you will forever keep postponing everything.

Don’t consider the giants in the land, it is easy to make it, only follow the principles. In taking over every city, there are different stages one must

follow. There is nothing in life that you want to do that does not intimidate you or pose as a problem initially. In fact, result means resistance overcome.

Success in life is purpose pursued. You pursue to possess. God said to David, pursue, overtake and recover. That can only happen when purpose is well defined.

2) PLAN YOUR LIFE: - Stocking is necessary in order to enhance correct positioning in life. Engaging the covenant tool of planning is to succeed brilliantly in life. Planning is a strategy to winning in life.it is the heart of success. Failing to plan is planning to fail. Planning is central to your pursuit of excellence. Painlessness is a monster.it is the reason many are failing today.

Planning is the application of logical, rational and analytic thinking to

your objectives or pro-grammes.it is a non-transferable responsibility.it is a do-it-yourself affair. If you dodge that responsibility you will become a liability. If you are only working without planning. You are only playing. Some people have been working for the government for the past twenty years without any serious promotion, such people are merely wasting their lives by playing around. A man made up his mind long before h left school that he was not going to waste his time looking around for secured employment as people call it. What he had always wanted was to be his own boss. And he planned towards that. The reason some are still wishing for a better tomorrow is because they lack plans.

Every day is good enough for you to do something distinctive. Therefore, start something. God your creator is a master planner. **He said in Jeremiah 29:11, for I know the plans I have for you, declares the lord. Plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.** If you take look at the whole universe, you will see the ingenuity of God at planning. The sun rises from the East and sets in the West. Every period is set out for a

season, the dry season, rainy season and harmattan period. If you don’t plan your life it will end in confusion. Prayer is no substitute for planning. Knowing how to pray without planning is dangerous. Those who hear from God most of the time are those who plan, they do not need to go to mountain top for prayers before hearing from God. They only sit down to plan, meditate and rationalize.it is in the place of meditation that God speaks to us. Some will only pray and continue praying without waiting for any answer from God.

Prayer is no substitute for planning. Stop asking God to do things for you. He will only give you the grace to do them. Do not substitute fasting for planning. Fasting only helps in removing the forces that could hindered your effective planning. Pray and fast all you can but settle down to plan. You do not need to spend long hours in prayers if you know how to plan. Planning is a major key in the school of excellence.it is very central to what you become in

life.

3) ASSOCIATE WITH THE WISE:

Associate with those who are using the wisdom of God to achieve things in life. When you associate with the wise, you will be wise. Look for someone who has achieved profound result through God's word. How did timothy learn from Paul? Through association. He associated himself with this anointed man of God because he wanted to be wise. **1Corinthians 15:33 says Do not be misled, bad company corrupts good character.** In the same vein, good communication will help you to build good character, personality, good home, ministry, business, etc. When you associate with the wise, you are bound to be wise. **Proverbs 13:20 says He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm.**

Do not move with fools, because iron will forever sharpen iron. Those who walk with the wise shall be wise. When you move with those who are already what you hope to be, you will get there quicker than they got there. But if you sit back and begin to criticize, you will be reducing yourself. Get close to them. If there is anything about them you do not like, leave that aside. Take the one you like and add to the one you had so that mount higher. That is the path of wisdom, that is a better way to excellence.

4) **DESIRE TO MAKE PROGRESS: -** God has a purpose in mind for all of his creatures. **His first word to man after creation was Be fruitful and increase in number, fill the Earth and subdue it [Genesis 1:28].**You are to move from minimum to maximum and t experience breakthrough in all your endeavors. It is never intended for you as a Christian to remain at the valley all the time. Like Paul the apostle, your testimony at the end of time should be, **I have fought a**

good fight, I have finished the race, I kept the faith.[1Tim 4:7].

Do not live and die without fulfilling your destiny. You are to make progress and record increase. God wants to take you from the level where you are to a higher one, where your story and testimony will be sweet. This was Ezekiel's experience in Ezekiel 47:3-7 God took him through four different level and from that passage of scriptures, we derive four revelations.

START SMALL: Ezekiel 47:3 as the man went eastward with a measuring line in his hand, he measure off a thousand cubits and them led me through water that was ankle drop. The man (who represented Holy Ghost) measured a thousand cubit and took Ezekiel from the seashore level to the ankle-deep level. In order words, he was brought to a starting point, starting is crucial. Never mind a humble beginning every big thing started small. God will always

start with you in a small way. You must start from that humble beginning before God can promote you to the next level.

HAVING STARTED, KEEP MOVING: Ezekiel 47:4 says He measured off another thousand cubits and led me through water that was knee-deep. He measured off another thousand and led me through water that was up to the waist. Starting is going good but do not stop there. The angel did not leave Ezekiel at the level of one thousand cubits. He took him from that first level to the next one. There are greater heights to attain with Christ pulling your hand along. God will never leave nor abandon you.

WHILE MOVING, DO NOT RUSH: The scriptures records in Ezekiel 47:4 that the angle was measuring off the water level bit by bit. God wants to give us that anointing, increase, etc. and most importantly, he wants to build our life along with it. The gifts of God are like loaded pistol, except you are trained

on how to use it. You might pull the trigger at yourself. God does not do a thing except that which glorifies Him.

EXPERIENCING YOUR BREAKTHROUGH: Ezekiel 47:5 says He measured off another thousand, but now it was a river that I could not cross, because the water had risen and was deep enough to swing in a river that no one could cross. At level four, the water level increased to a river that could not be cross. That signifies breakthrough, success, increase, etc. It is the level of attaining new heights without much effort. At that level, your struggles and efforts are no longer necessary. You only put in little to achieve much.

5) **INDUCE YOUR CHANGE: -** You can determine to effect certain changes in certain areas of your life and God would be there to back you

up. You can set new goals and work to attain them, you can decide to change focus and obtain new results. The prodigal son said **in Luke 15:18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him…**He decided to arise, he effected it and his status changed. You can decide that through prayers propelled by God's leading, certain things in your life must change for good, provided that the changes will come soon.

In 1Chronicle 4:10 Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, oh that you would bless me and enlarge my territory, let your hand be with me and keep me from pain. And God granted his request. His mother had called him Jabez, meaning sorrow and throughout his life, sorrow was with him. The bible says in verse 9 that he was more Honorable than his brothers. But there was nothing for Jabez to show for it. Many people labor like elephant and eat like rats, they do not have anything to show for all their labor. God desires to visit his people with positive changes.

6) **WORKING YOUR WAY TO DESTINY:** - If you want to achieve your goal in life, be willing to work. There is a price for every rise. Whatever you want in life has a price. Nothing of Value is free, nothing of quality is cheap. No one you see on top dropped there, he/she must have climbed there. It is only the grave that people start digging from the top. There is this

deceit or superstition of believing in luck, such thought belongs to mediocre. It is a pool betting mentality. Stop looking for luck, work your way up. Blessings come from God, and they are permanent and regular. **Proverbs 10:22 says the blessing of the Lord brings wealth, and he added no sorrow to it.**

If you do not attempt anything, you cannot attain it, and if you venture into nothing, you gain nothing. Hate free things for they have the tendency to enslave. Be ready to work or pay for what you desire in life. That way, you appreciate it more and it blesses you the most. Everyone desires something in life. We all want the good things of life, but please let us be willing to pay the price, and the price is work. When many of our youths look for jobs, it often turns out that they actually want to pay, not the job. They want money, but don't want to work for it. Wealth without work destroys, I want you to know that any payment received for a job not done is stealing, and you will have to account for it latter. In the same vain.

Activity without productivity is robbery.

Many government officials not only go to work late, they do nothing profitable and productive during office hours. They chat, sleep, and go home when it is closing time, these same people are often the most vocal in agitating for salary increase. No nation or society survives that way. If you have nothing to show forth you earn nothing. Money earned fraudulently disappears quickly. Reporting for duty is not the same thing as doing the work. Do not report for duty, carry out the duties. The reason people miss opportunities in life is because they (opportunities) usually come dressed in overalls as work. And because they hate work, they avoid it and also miss good opportunities, which they so badly desire.

Money is the reward for services rendered. If you want to earn some

money before you go to bed today, find work to do. When you work, money comes. If anybody complains that he/she does not have money, the truth of the matter is that he/she does not want to work. The things that will bring money to you are within and around you. Do not ever look for money if you are not willing to work for it. Let your work excite you. Some people get angry every Monday morning, and are always very happy every Friday. The reason is obvious, on Monday, work starts while Friday's herald weekends, which often, spent partying. As soon as the weekend grinds to a halt and the cock crows or the alarms rings announcing the down of a new day, they feel like shutting off the sound and sleep again because work does not excite them.

Work should be the attitude of the Christian mind, so look forward to it. **Jesus Christ said in john 5:17 that. My father worketh hitherto, and I work (KJV).**God worked six days and rested for a day. You cannot rest six days and work for a day.it does not work that way. God is a worker and Jesus Christ

too, is a worker.

7) CONSISTENCY-A TOOL FOR LIFTING: Consistency is the foundation for

Distinction. Nothing done inconsistently, haphazardly or half-heartedly fulfills its original dreams. Do not handle your affairs lazily, and do not be easily discouraged. Many people are too much in a hurry to make it in life. They are not willing to work consistently on anything. If you are not consistent your results cannot be consistent.so, be consistent, be regular and repetitive.

Consistency is a product of dedication, so is focus, which is having a singleness of purpose. Consistency means zeroing in on something, as well as putting one's hand to the plough, and not looking back. It is this quality that Jesus was referring to when he said **in Luke 9:62 that…No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.**

(KJV). Consistency mean to be steady, dependable, unbending not deviating from purpose and being true to type. Does that describe you? It takes consistency to achieve distinction in any field. You must do what you are set to do with consistency, if you want things to shape up for you.

Dominion, a product of authority, comes only by being consistent. Consistency is the covenant key to your throne in fact, to any height you want to reach in life. **Paul said in Philippians 3:13… one thing I do….**Here he was talking about his being consistent. Forgetting what was behind, he pressed on toward the goal to win the prize .Many people pursue too many things at a time. It takes being consistent to win a prize.

Pursuing more than one thing at a time makes one jacks of all trades, and master of none. Paul's life was a statement on consistency. No wonder **he said Romans 8:38-39 that he was persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, should be able to separate him from the love of God in Christ Jesus**. That was the height of consistency. If you are persuaded, you cannot be dissuaded. Paul was persuaded,

that was why he was not dissuaded

If you do not stand for something, you will fall for anything. If you have no voice, you will become void. If you lack principles, you will be ridiculed. You must stand for something in life. You must have an opinion, if you sit on the fence, you will be fenced off. Get a thing, which you love, doing, or which you desire to do well, as a goal. Be devoted to one thing at a time. When you are devoted, you will have details. No one should be in doubt as to your opinion on certain issues, be it on national issues, domestic matters, when among your colleagues, within your family, in the community, and where you live or operate.

Although you are supposed to listen to others and respect their views, you must take your stand after listening. On issues that border on probity, integrity, morality, sincerity and truthfulness, people should be able to quote you and stick their necks out for you, even in your absence. In some crucial areas of

life, you must be predictable. Let your life style be consistent with your principles for that is the only way to prove that your principles are practicable. Principles that are not practicable are not achievable.