

FULFILLING OUR GOD GIVEN DESTINY (Living for the Kingdom Cause)

- **Every believer has a unique God given plan and purpose for their life that begins the moment that they come to Christ**

- **The Apostle Paul wrote,**
“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” **(Ephesians 2:10)**

- **God has much in store for every believer’s life**

- **God is never limited by our ability or circumstances, ONLY OUR availability**

- **The Apostle Paul wrote,**
“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,”
(Ephesians 3:20)

- **Every believer has an important role to play within the Body of Christ**

- **There are many reasons why it is so important that we fulfil our God given purpose and destiny here on earth**

i) We all need each other in the Body of Christ

The Apostle Paul wrote, “For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free - and have all been made to drink into one Spirit” **(1 Corinthians 12:12-13)**

“But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. And if they were all one member, where would the body be? But now indeed there *are many members, yet one body.* **And the eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you”; nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.”** No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary.” **(1 Corinthians 12:18-22)**

ii) When we work together in unity with other believers the church begins to make a great difference in our communities

The Apostle Paul wrote,

“from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself IN LOVE.” **(Ephesians 4:16)**

iii) Through our lives others will come to faith and be encouraged in their walk with the Lord. Jesus said, “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16) and

iv) The *lateness of the hour that we are now living in*. We can see the imminent return of the Lord. Right now many people still need to be saved

- **We are all uniquely gifted as believers. Flowing in our gifts and calling is a great key to living a life of great purpose and meaning and to making a great difference in this world for eternity**

The Apostle Paul wrote, “For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: If prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. **(Romans 12:4-8)**

- **We all have a mission field (Our homes, our schools, our workplaces, our neighbourhoods)**
- **We all can make a great difference in this world for eternity**
- **We all can enjoy a life of great purpose and meaning *irrespective of our current temporary circumstances***

- **Jesus Himself said,**
 “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” (John 10:10)

- **We all have one gift of life in this body to store up treasures for eternity. How important it is that we always live with eternity in mind**

- **Jesus Himself said,**
 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matthew 6:19-21)

- **We must not allow the cares of this world and the desires for other things to enter into our heart and life and sidetrack us from following God’s plan for our life**

- **Jesus Himself in His explanation of the Parable of the Sower said,** “Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful. But these are the ones sown on good ground, those who hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit: some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred.” (Mark 4:18-20)

TODAY I WANT TO SHARE 6 SIMPLE KEYS TO HELP YOU TO FULFIL YOUR GOD GIVEN DESTINY IN LIFE AND TO HELP YOU LIVE FOR THE KINGDOM CAUSE (To live with eternity in mind)

1) WE NEED TO KNOW AND FOLLOW THE WILL OF GOD FOR OUR LIFE

- **God's *general will* for our life (how we should live our life) is outlined in the Word of God. For example:**
 - **The importance of making our relationship with the LORD our highest priority in life (Mark 12:30) (Luke 14:26-27)**
 - **The importance of loving others (Mark 12:31)**
 - **That marriage is between a man and woman (Genesis 2:24)**
 - **The importance of commitment in our marriages (1 Corinthians 7:10-11)**
 - **Not to be in significant partnerships with unbelievers. That we are not to be unequally yoked together with unbelievers (2 Corinthians 6:14-16)**
 - **To continually forgive others who may hurt or let us down in life (Mark 11:25-26) (Matthew 18:21-22)**
 - **For children to obey and honour their parents (Ephesians 6:1-3) – which is the first commandment with promise, so that they will do well and have long lives, and**
 - **To choose our friends wisely (1 Corinthians 15:33) (Proverbs 12:26)**

- **THESE GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR LIFE HELP US TO HAVE GOOD RELATIONSHIPS BOTH WITH GOD AND WITH OTHERS AND TO HAVE STABILITY IN OUR LIFE**
- **BUT GOD ALSO HAS A SPECIFIC WILL FOR EACH OF OUR LIVES – The good works which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.**
- **SO TO FULFIL GOD’S PLAN FOR OUR LIFE IT IS CRUCIAL THAT WE ALSO KNOW GOD’S UNIQUE AND SPECIFIC WILL FOR OUR LIFE IN EACH SEASON OF OUR LIFE. For example;**
 - **Which church fellowship am I to be planted in**
 - **Where do I live and which friends do I choose in life**
 - **What school or college do we send our kids to**
 - **What subjects and courses do I study at school and university as part of God’s unfolding plan for my life**
 - **What career or ministry direction do I take in life**
 - **Which company or firm do I work for**
 - **What ministry roles and acts of service am I to get involved in as part of God’s unfolding plan for my life (we are all uniquely gifted), and**
 - **Who to marry (The second most important decision in our life next to accepting Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour)**
- **Being in the centre of God’s will for our life is a great key to seeing God’s blessing and favour upon all that we do in life. GOD KNOWS WHAT IS BEST FOR US**

➤ **We ARE MOST ANOINTED and most effective in the Body of Christ when we flow in our own unique gifts and calling. We are also most fulfilled in life when we FOLLOW GOD’S PLAN FOR OUR LIFE**

➤ **We need to continually commit our plans to the LORD so that He can direct our steps in life**

➤ **In the book of Proverbs we read, “Commit your works to the Lord, and your thoughts will be established.” (Proverbs 16:3)**

➤ **As we continue to be faithful in the little things, God will entrust to us greater responsibilities**

➤ **Jesus is our role model. He was committed to doing the will of His Father here on earth**

➤ **Jesus said to His disciples, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.” (John 4:34)**

➤ **Given the lawless times that we are now living in, it is crucial that we continually seek God’s will for our life so that we remain strong in our walk with the Lord and make a great difference in this world for eternity**

➤ **The Apostle Paul wrote, “See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore **do not be unwise**, but understand what the will of the Lord is.” (Ephesians 5:15-17)**

- **God’s plan for our life unfolds over time. Therefore being in the will of God in each season of our life is important if we are to see all that God has planned for our life coming to pass**

- **King David wrote,**
“The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD and He delights in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; For the LORD upholds him with His hand.”
(Psalm 37:23-24)

- **HAVING A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF GOD’S WILL FOR OUR LIFE HELPS US TO BE FOCUSED AND FRUITFUL IN OUR WALK WITH THE LORD**

- **We all have an important role to play in the Body of Christ**

- **When we put Jesus first in our life and are committed to doing the will of God for our life, we can be assured that every need that we have in life shall be met.**

- **Jesus Himself said,**
“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ Or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” (Matthew 6:31-33)

2) We need to build our lives on the wisdom and promises contained in God's Word

- **The Bible is full of Promises for all believers.**
- **The Apostle Paul wrote,**
“For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.” (2 Corinthians 1:20)
- **As we meditate on and speak out God's Word our faith is built up. The Apostle Paul wrote,**
“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.” (Romans 10:17)
- **Maintaining a strong faith is a great key to *fulfilling our God given potential in Christ***
- **Building our lives on the Word of God gives us great stability which is so important given the days that we are now living in**
- **We must refuse to allow the ways of the world and the attitudes and mindsets of the people in the world to negatively influence our lives as believers**
- **Continually *renewing our mind with the Word of God* helps us to develop Kingdom thinking and to build up our faith to believe for miracles**

➤ **Renewing our mind with the Word of God is a great key to growing in Christlike character so that we become the salt and light in our world. Jesus said,**
“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” **(Matthew 5:16)**

➤ **The Apostle Paul wrote,**

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you *present your bodies a living sacrifice*, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be **transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”
(Romans 12:1-2)

➤ **Being both hearers and doers of the Word is a great key to remaining strong during the trials of life that we all go through at times**

➤ **Jesus made this very clear when He said,**

“Therefore, **whoever** hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the **rock**; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

But **everyone** who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.”
(Matthew 7:24-27)

- **Meditating on and applying the Word of God to our lives, is a great key to being prosperous and to having good success in our life, to seeing all that God has planned for our life coming to pass.**

- **The LORD said to Joshua just prior to him leading the children of Israel into the Promised Land,**
“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” **(Joshua 1:8)**

3) The importance of being continually CONNECTED in fellowship with other Christians (We all need continual encouragement from other believers)

➤ Having fellowship with other believers:

- i) Helps us to remain strong in our faith**
- ii) Enables us to receive encouragement from others to help us to fulfil God's plan for our lives**
- iii) Enables us to build good godly friendships in our life**
- iv) Helps us to connect with people who will be part of God's unfolding plan for our life**
- v) Helps us to receive the corporate blessing that comes from meeting with others believers.**

Jesus Himself said,

“For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.” **(Matthew 18:20), and**

- vi) Enables us to receive godly council from other mature believers to help us to make right choices in life**

In the book of Proverbs we read,

“Where there is no counsel, the people fall; But in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.” **(Proverbs 11:14)**

“Without counsel, plans go awry, But in the multitude of counsellors they are established.” **(Proverbs 15:22)**

➤ **With greater lawlessness now in the world and with the imminent return of the Lord, having fellowship with other believers is crucial if we are to remain strong in our faith and to fulfil our God given destiny AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF MANY OTHERS for eternity**

➤ **In the book of Hebrews we read,**

“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.” **(Hebrews 10:23-25)**

4) Having a lifestyle of prayer (We need to involve God in every aspect of our life)

- **Prayer helps us to involve God in our decisions. As life is full of choices we need God's wisdom to continually make right choices in life (choices that are in line with God's unfolding plan for our life)**
- **In the book of James we read,**
“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.” **(James 1:5)**
- **The decisions we make today can affect us sometimes for a life time and in terms of our response to Jesus, an eternity**
- **We have a God who both hears and answers our prayers**
- **The Apostle John wrote,**
“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. **(1 John 5:14-15)**
- **Rather than continually speaking about our problems we need to learn to take our cares to the Lord in prayer.**

➤ **God is able to turn our circumstances around.**
“For with God nothing will be impossible.”
(Luke 1:37)

➤ **Jesus Himself said,**

“Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.”

“Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.” **(Mark 11:22-24)**

➤ **God’s plan for our life unfolds over time.**

➤ **In the book of Psalms we read,**

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD and He delights in his way.” **(Psalm 37:23)**

➤ **Having a lifestyle of prayer helps us to stay in the centre of God’s will for our life and to **REMAIN GOD DEPENDENT****

➤ **In the book of Proverbs we read,**

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.” **(Proverbs 3:5-6)**

5) We need to be continually committed to a life of faith (That we are always prepared to step out to just do what Jesus tells us to do)

- **God’s plan for our life will always involve taking steps of faith**
- **We need to be prepared to overcome our fears and to step out by faith to do what God calls us to do in life**
- **We need to be prepared to seize the God given opportunities that come our way in life each and every step of the way**
- **As we respond in faith to what God calls us to do in life, we will never see Him letting us down**
- **As we move God begins to move on our behalf**
- **In the book of Hebrews we read,**
 - “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” **(Hebrews 11:1)**
 - “But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” **(Hebrews 11:6)**
- **Trust and faith go hand in hand.**

- **If we trust God in every area of our life we will be prepared to simply just do what He calls us to do in life**

- **In the book of Jeremiah we read,**

“Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, And whose hope is the Lord. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, Which spreads out its roots by the river, And will not fear when heat comes; But its leaf will be green, And will not be anxious in the year of drought, Nor will cease from yielding fruit.” (Jeremiah 17:7-8)

- **King David wrote,**

“Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. **Delight yourself also in the Lord,** And He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass.” (Psalm 37:3-5)

- **God has so much in store for each of our lives.**

- **Just believe that your life can make a great difference in this world for eternity**

- **TO SEE ALL THAT GOD HAS PLANNED FOR OUR LIFE COMING TO PASS WILL INVOLVE TAKING STEPS OF FAITH**

- **However we can be assured that as we follow God’s plan for our life, He will continually empower us and provide for us each and every step of the way**

6) We need to depend on God's enabling power to do all that He calls us to do in life

- **As Christians we need to depend on God's enabling power to fulfil His plan for our life and to overcome the many challenges that we will all go through in life as followers of Christ**

- **The Apostle Paul wrote to the young pastor Timothy,**
“Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.” **(2 Timothy 3:12)**

- **The Apostle Paul knew what it was to have to depend on God's strength to do what he was called to do in life. God's strength is made perfect in our weakness**

- **The Apostle Paul wrote,**
“And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure.

“Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.
(2 Corinthians 12:7-9)

- **Like the Apostle Paul we need to learn to depend on God's enabling power to complete all that God gives us to do in life**

- **The Apostle Paul wrote,**
“I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.” (1 Corinthians 2:3-5)

- **The Apostle Peter wrote,**
“If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen” (1 Peter 4:11)

- **We must learn to depend on God's enabling power to do what God calls us to do in life**

- **As we do, we will always be prepared to step out by faith and respond to all that God calls us to do in life**

- **As we continually trust the Lord and step out to follow God's plan for our life we will see the miracles and fulfil God's destiny and plan for our life**

SO IN CONCLUSION SIX KEYS TO HELP US TO FULFIL OUR GOD GIVEN DESTINY IN LIFE AND TO LIVE FOR THE KINGDOM CAUSE ARE:

- 1) WE NEED TO KNOW AND FOLLOW THE WILL OF GOD FOR OUR LIFE**
- 2) We need to build our lives on the wisdom and promises contained in God's Word**
- 3) The importance of being continually CONNECTED in fellowship with other Christians (We all need continual encouragement from other believers)**
- 4) Having a lifestyle of prayer (We need to involve God in every aspect of our life)**
- 5) We need to be continually committed to a life of faith (That we are always prepared to step out to just do what Jesus tells us to do) and**
- 6) We need to depend on God's enabling power to do all that He calls us to do in life**