



PARTNERSHIP IN PURPOSE

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Purpose Series 7

16th August 2023

Topic: Vital Forces of Partnership in Purpose

Text: John 15:4-5 - *"Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing." (NKJV)*

INTRODUCTION

Last week, we concluded that the fulfillment of purpose is never done in isolation. We went further according to the scripture, that it is important to build a relationship with the giver of purpose. If you are outside His plan and not abiding in Him, then you find it difficult to sustain His purpose.

Philippians 3:10

"That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death," (NKJV)

It is highly impossible to fulfill the purpose of God for our lives until we know him intimately and this is what Paul understood before stating this statement. This is a dimension that helps us to sustain purpose. We need to build a solid relationship with God before our purpose can be unveiled. Nobody on earth is without purpose. As I have stated earlier in this series: ***"The most terrible thing that can ever happen to a man is dying without discovering what he has been called to do by God."***

Every one of us, our days are numbered and only people who fulfill their purpose continue to live on even after death through their impact on earth. Hence, it is important as a believer you can't live your life without discovering and fulfilling your purpose. Don't be

a 'Methuselah', who lived many years but the only thing we know him for was the length of years he lived. Instead, when we talk about Enoch, he spent a few years, but it was impactful.

There is more to you than what you are chasing. Purpose cannot be discovered until there is a solid relationship with God - "*That I may know him*". This is what I saw in Isaiah.

Isaiah 55:1

"Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; And you who have no money, Come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price." (NKJV)

This is an open invitation from God, who has made Himself available for you. The only thing that remains is that you run to him. Don't be far from him.

We realized also that we have a responsibility to fulfill, it is not only about God but also about us. This is what we call Partnership.

A partnership is between two or more people. Hence, if God will play His own part in your fulfillment, you also have work to do, a responsibility on your part. There are vital forces you must put in place as your own part of responsibility for you to fulfill your purpose.

VITAL FORCES TO FULFILL PURPOSE

We looked at two last week.

1. Spirituality: A carnal mind cannot know the mind of God. It takes spirituality to get the frequency of heaven to know your purpose. Spirituality is not about language or grammar. God is calling you to subject yourself, to where you are willing to please God daily.

John, the Baptist had one prayer that *Jesus will increase, and he will decrease*. Can you pray that prayer likewise?

Spirituality is subjection. Until Jesus is glorified in your life, all you do is in vain.

2. Diligence: Be diligent in your skill. Don't be lazy, help yourself. Don't only come to church to be helped, work hard on yourself. When you discover purpose in life, one thing that will announce you is the effort and work you put in. Take responsibility for your life.

In fact, the Bible says in Proverbs: "**He who doesn't work must not eat**". This shows you the importance of work in life. Purpose is not a joke, it is work.

There is something about prayer warriors that bother me so much. They start praying about a problem when it's about to collapse without working or planning. Indeed, God answers but the result is little. There is a place of prayer, there is also a place of working and planning. Stop praying without planning.

Now today, let's proceed in the vital forces of partnership.

3. The force of development: As much as you are working, you must develop your skill. You must be smart in your work, and this is development. This is what brings about speed in fulfillment. An important thing God gives us as a believer is a supernatural ability called Giftings. Develop your gift. The problem is that we have skills, but we are not developing it.

2 Timothy 1:6

*"Therefore, I remind you to **stir** up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands." (NKJV)*

*"For this reason, I remind you to **fan** into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands." (AMP)*

The word 'stirs' and 'fan' is developing. You have something in you, an inner fire that you must bring to flames. You will agree with

me that when you first received the gift of the holy spirit with the evidence of speaking of tongues, your language is like a single sentence but as you kept saying and speaking and it grew into something more.

"What you stop using will stop growing, Develop! "

You are not made to remain stagnant in life, always add new value to yourself. Evolve with your generation. The issue is many of us have a mediocrity mentality and this is limiting our capability.

Develop your gift. This is what makes purpose attractive. You can sing but can you pitch? You can write but have you published?
Don't make your purpose extinct by not adding to yourself.

People identify with a purpose that is being developed. Purpose is not only about fulfilling but developing oneself.

"Grace to develop yourself, may God give it to you."

Let's look at an example in the Bible: David

1 Samuel 17:39 - 40

David fastened his sword to his armor and tried to walk, for he had not tested them. And David said to Saul, "I cannot walk with these, for I have not tested them." So, David took them off. Then he took his staff in his hand; and he chose for himself five smooth stones from the brook, and put them in a shepherd's bag, in a pouch which he had, and his sling was in his hand. And he drew near to the Philistine. (NKJV)

Do you remember this story? David was given a sword and shield, but he refused because he was not familiar with it. He had to work with a skill he was used to. David had God but a choice of the wrong weapon would have meant death for him. See that David had a skill he had developed before he met the challenge of Goliath. Let's see what happened later.

1Samuel 25:13

David said to his men, "Every man gird on his sword." So, every man girded on his sword, and David also girded on his sword. And about four hundred men went with David, and two hundred stayed with the supplies. (NKJV)

David already developed his skill. The weapons David refused eight chapters before are now his most skillful. This is evolving. It will take time but try to develop your skill. The world is evolving, people are developing so do the same.

The more you do, the better you become. Wake up! Build yourself to a level that you can't be sidelined.

"When you refuse to evolve (upgrade), then downgrading is inevitable."

Blessed is those who hear these and do it. The blessing is in applying everything I have said.

As I conclude this force, in developing yourself in partnership with God, you have to know this, you must have the mind of Christ.

Philippians 2:5

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus," (NKJV)

You must think the way Christ thinks. Yes, it is possible to have different minds such as background, fear of failure, and the like but bear the mindset of Christ. You must have the perspective of Christ always. And what is the perspective of Christ?

John 14:12. : *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father." (NKJV)*

Christ's perspective is greatness. What makes you even better is that you have anointing, word, and creativity authority. The voice of past should not control you if you are now in Christ.

CHANGE YOUR MINDSET.

Wherever God is planting you.

Your mindset is diligence.

Your mindset is spirituality.

Your mindset is development.

Prayers Points

- Father, take barriers and limitations away from me.
- Father, help me to influence others positively.
- May God give me the opportunity.
- God give me the grace to develop myself.