

A DEVOTIONAL TO HELP YOU DISCOVER YOUR PURPOSE



I AM CREATED WITH PURPOSE

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

- Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

Have you ever taken a personality test and at the end, it shows you a list of careers that would be a good fit for you? Although these tests can do a job job of matching you with careers based on your personality type, one factor is doesn't consider is God.

When we don't fully understand God's plan, it can become easy for us to fall into a trap of wondering if God does really have a plan for us. Instead of seeking God, we seek personality tests, friends, or family for the answers.

The truth is the only person who can reveal the plan for your life is God. He does have good things in store for us.

God created us with purpose and had a plan for our lives long before we were even on this earth. We have to make the decision to believe that. We have to know that nothing can change God's will for our lives.

As you continue we continue your walk with Christ, he will continue to reveal your purpose.

MY CAREER IS NOT MY IDENTITY

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith - Romans 12:6 (NIV)

You are not your job title. Your job does not define you. You are more than an 8-to-5. I've heard these words repeated many times but it wasn't until recently that I actually believed them.

Whenever, I would be unhappy at a job, my solution was alway to quit and find another job. I thought replacing one job with a different one would give me purpose, value and worth. I thought that if I could find a better job that sounded fancier or was more glamorous, then I would finally figure out who I was.

Over the course of about 4 years, I had been at 4 different jobs. I suddenly found myself without a job. If my identity isn't defined by my job, then it shouldn't be defined by not having a job either right?

I realized that I had placed so much weight on what I did at work and now without it, I felt empty and without purpose. Your job should not be your everything. We are all children of God who have a purpose and a meaning on this earth. That is your core identity, the one that God has given you, not your job title.

You were blessed with gifts and strengths that you should use even if it is not directly related to your job. Think about what you love to do or what you feel gifted to do, and then go do it. You may get paid to do it or you may not. You're still doing what you feel called to do. Romans 12:6 says, "We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us." Beyond just working to pay bills, we often feel more fulfilled when we are doing the type of work we love.

In the end, our identity is so much more than what we do at work for 8 hours a day. We all have relationships, gifts, passions, and personality traits outside of what we do for work. Whether you are sitting in a cubicle or standing in a courtroom, your identity is found in Christ and not your job title.

DAY 3

I WILL PRAY FOR DIRECTION

Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened

- Matthew 7: 7-8 (NIV)

If you are anything like me, you don't like to ask for help. You try to figure it out all on your own. We think that we can create our own path and follow in what we believe to be the right direction.

Trying to figure it out on our own is actually prideful. When you say that you can do it all on your own, you are telling God that your plans are better than his. You are telling God that you can do it without him.

Here is a prayer that will help remind you to seek direction from God first.:

Heavenly Father, thank You for your guidance and direction. Forgive me for trying to get in your way and for trying to carve out my own path. Thank you for knowing the best path for my life. Help me to remember top stop and listen for your direction instead of trying to get ahead of myself.

I trust that your plans for me are greater than I could ever imagine. I want to follow the path you have laid out for me.

Please redirect me if I start to veer off from the path you have created. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

DAY 4

I AM QUALIFIED

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13 - Phillipians 4:13 (NIV)

When God Calls You, He Will Qualify You.

If you are feeling unqualified, I hope it encourages you to know that God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called. He will qualify you. You may be feeling like your skills, talents or gifts are not enough to fulfill the plan that He has on your life, but you have to remember that he will equip you with all the tools that you need to fulfill HIs plan for you.

It is true that in your own strength you are not able to fulfill His plan, and he knows that. That is why he wants you to rely completely on Him to equip you. In your own strength, you don't have the ability to do everything that he wants you to do, but with his strength the possibilities are endless.

Also know that once God calls you to something, nothing can change that.

God will qualify you!



HOW CAN I USE MY GIFTS TO GLORIFY HIM

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

- 1 Peter 4:10-11 (NIV)

JOURNAL IT

