

How to Discover Your Life's Purpose

(A Collection of articles written by Motivational Speaker and Trainer, that will help you incorporate your purpose into a lucrative career.)

Table of Content

<i>Why Am I Here?</i>	4
<i>How to Discover Your Life's Purpose So You May Live the Life God Intended You to Live</i>	5
<i>Jumping Out of Bed Each Morning</i>	8
<i>What Happens When We Do Not Discover God's Purpose for Our Life</i>	12
<i>What Happens When You Know God's Purpose for Your Life</i>	16
<i>What are you passionate about?</i>	18
<i>10 Tips That Will Help You Discover Your Life's Purpose and Start Living the Life God Intended You to Live</i>	19
<i>Make God Your Career Counselor</i>	25
<i>GOD'S TRYING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING</i>	
<i>Finding Your Passion</i>	32
<i>Your Purpose Will Compliment Your Lifestyle</i>	35
<i>Age Ain't Nothing But a Number</i>	44
<i>Learn to Do Away With Stinkin' Thinkin'</i>	61
<i>How to Stay Motivated</i>	65
<i>Read to Learn</i>	69
<i>Courage</i>	73
<i>Trust Jesus</i>	74
<i>Setting Goals</i>	78
<i>Web Sites and Other Information</i>	82

Life Without Purpose Is Barren Indeed.

There Can't Be A Harvest Unless You Plant Seed,

There Can't Be Attainment Unless There's A Goal.

And Man's But A Robot Unless There's A Soul...

If We Send No Ships Out, No Ships Will Come In,

And Unless There's A Contest, Nobody Can Win...

For Games Can't Be Won Unless They Are Played,

And Prayers Can't Be Answered Unless They Are Prayed...

So Whatever Is Wrong With Your Life Today,

You'll Find A Solution If You Kneel Down And Pray.

Not Just For Pleasure, Enjoyment And Health,

Not Just For Honors And Prestige And Wealth...

But Pray For The A Purpose To Make Life Worth Living

And Pray For The Joys Of Unselfish Giving

For Great Is Your Gladness And Rich Your Reward

When You Make Your Life's Purpose The Choice Of The Lord...

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

WE WERE NOT SENT INTO THIS WORLD TO DO ANYTHING INTO WHICH WE CANNOT PUT OUR HEART.--RUSKIN, JOHN

Why Am I Here?

It comes a point in your life when you begin to wonder "Why am I here?" What is the purpose of my life? You start to feel that you were sent here for a reason, but you have no idea what that reason might be.

Aren't you feeling that way, right now? Aren't you having that nagging feeling that you know you have more to offer of yourself than what you are presently doing with your life?

If so, than God is trying to tell you something.

You are born with a purpose in life. It tells us so in the Bible, Romans 8:28 says – ***"all things work for the best for those who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose."***

If you haven't discovered God's purpose for your life, chances are you have not learned to listen to your soul. If you are **not** listening to your soul you are probably working in a career that does not satisfy your soul. You probably feel as if you are a square peg and your job is a round hole.

It just does not fit.

"How to Discover Your Life's Purpose" is a collection of articles that will give you spiritual tips and information to help you discover and unravel your true calling and give you total happiness in a purposeful profession.

For continuous support and information on discovering your life's purpose, sign up for ***Your Life's Purpose*** FREE weekly newsletter by sending a blank email to <mailto:yourlifespurpose-subscribe@topica.com>.

Purpose serves as a principle around which to organize our lives. --

Anonymous

How to Discover Your Life's Purpose So You May Live the Life God Intended You to Live

Beep, beep, beep, beep...

Cassandra slowly opened her eyes and removed the blankets off her head. "It's cold. I don't feel like getting up." She thought this as she stuck her arm out from under the blankets to hit the snooze button on the alarm clock.

Beep, beep, beep, beep...

"It could not possibly have been nine minutes already. I *just* laid back down", said Cassandra as she once again, stuck her arm from under the blankets to hit the snooze button.

Beep, beep, beep, beep...

"Alright, alright!!" she yelled as she frowned her nose at the alarm clock. "I'm getting up!"

Cassandra dragged herself out of bed and into the bathroom. She turned on the facets and splashed warm water on her face. She looked at herself in the mirror and said, "I can't do this any more. I really can't."

Cassandra had worked for the past ten years as an administrative assistant to five attorneys in the legal department of a pharmaceutical company. She hates her job. She hates everything about her job. She hates the fact that she had to get up every morning to go into a job that she hates. She hates thinking about hating her job. She just plain "HATES IT!!"

Because she dislikes her job so much, she isn't good at it either. It isn't that she does not know how to do a good job, because she was good in the past. It is that she no longer cares about the job and it shows. She doesn't want to do it for the rest of her life and therefore, don't care about how well she performs.

The paycheck is OK. It affords her enough money to pay her bills and still get in a little shopping every now and then. But, it doesn't allow her enough for all the extra things in life.

She lives in a one-bedroom apartment and drives a car that works whenever it wants to work. But today, Cassandra made up her mind that she is sick and tired of being sick and tired.

Cassandra is a long time member of First Baptist Church and believes in God with all her heart. She spends most of her free time helping out at the church. She's a member of the Mass Choir and a member of the Usher Board.

Being a strong believer in God, Cassandra knows she was put on this earth to do more than just file papers, answer phones, type contracts, briefs and agreements for five, rather annoying attorneys. She knows that she has a purpose in life but she is confused about how to find her purpose.

The problem is quite simple. Cassandra, like so many others, have never learned how to discover her purpose in life because she hasn't learned how to listen to her soul.

The soul is an amazing thing. Once you learn how to listen to your soul and follow your passions, you will be on the right track to discovering your life's purpose.

Discovering your life's purpose and incorporating it into a career, is what God put us here on earth to do.

When you know your purpose and are living it, you will be passionate about your work because it will be something exciting. Something that will make you leap out of bed each morning before the alarm clock goes off. And because of your passion for it, you will excel at it.

People will offer you money to perform your service, even though you would do it for free because you love it so much.

Wouldn't that be wonderful?

Why not make it happen? Why not make it your goal? Right now.

Today, while you are reading this book.

Get a piece of paper.

Write down on this paper the following statement.

“Before I finish reading this book, I will know what purpose God has assigned for my life.”

Let's call this your “Purpose Statement.” Read this statement aloud.

Now take that piece of paper and use it as a bookmark. Every time you open this book, before you start to read, read your purpose statement.

If you do this, and believe it, by the end of the book, you will have discovered God's purpose for your life.

Come on, let's start discovering!

I would rather be ashes than dust; I would rather that my spark should burn out in a brilliant blaze than it should be stifled by dryrot; I would rather be in a superb meteor, every atom of me in magnificent glow than in a sleepy and permanent planet; the proper function of man is to live, not to exist; I shall not waste my days in trying to prolong them; I shall USE my time. ---Jack London contributed by Heath Batz

Jumping Out of Bed Each Morning

Imagine being excited about your work.

Monday mornings are usually the worst day of the week for those who have not discovered God's purpose for their life. That includes you.

Aren't Monday mornings pretty tough? But, imagine if Monday mornings felt like Christmas day every week. Won't that be wonderful?

That's how excited you will be when you discover the purpose God has for your life.

God has designed a profession for you. Once you discover that profession, it will fit better than any other profession you could possibly try to fit yourself into. Why? Because ***your profession is a divine gift from God--made especially and exclusively for you.***

Chances are you are not working in that profession right now. If you were, you probably would not have purchased this book.

Let's start with a simple exercise. Right now, wherever you may be reading this book, take a moment and sit back and close your eyes.

Imagine it is Monday morning, 5:00 a.m. and you have to get up for work.

The alarm clock rings.

What do you normally do? Do you jump out of bed, eager to start your day?

If you are like most people who haven't discovered God's purpose for

your life, you more than likely hit the snooze button about two or three times before getting out of bed, just like Cassandra. And then drag yourself around to get ready.

Now, imagine it's 5:00 a.m. and you are going on vacation today. You are going to Hawaii (or some other exotic place you'd love to vacation).

How excited would you be with the prospect of spending the next week on Waikiki beach?

You have been exercising at the gym for the past three months and have gotten rid of all the excess weight in preparation for your vacation. You're in shape. You're looking good. You cannot wait to get to Hawaii and parade around in your new swimsuit and soak up the sun.

It's Monday, 5:00 a.m. and the alarm clock goes off. How excited would you be on this morning?

Would you hit the snooze button?

I doubt it. You will probably be wake before the alarm clock even rings. More than likely you couldn't sleep too well because you were so anxious to start your vacation.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to have that same feeling every single day of your life? Not because you are going on vacation everyday, but because you are excited about your life's work. You are excited about getting up to go to the office each day or wherever God's purpose for your life leads you.

You can't help but be excited every day. You jump out of bed with the feeling that today, just like yesterday and tomorrow, will be the best day ever. It feels like Christmas once again. As soon as you hit the floor you are thanking God for allowing you to see another day and enjoy living.

YOU CAN HAVE THAT FEELING EVERY DAY ONCE YOU DISCOVER GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOUR LIFE.

You are special and because you are special, God took time to create a profession that is perfect, unique and designed exclusively for you. Studies have shown that 90% of us go to jobs and work in careers that we do not like. We work until retirement never discovering God's purpose for our life. We exist every day but never really LIVE.

We go to high school and some of us go on to college, study professions that we think are going to be the "top earning" professions when we graduate.

Some of us even study what our parents tell us we should study.

But the "top earning" profession may not very well be the purpose God has for your life.

And, although I'm sure our parents mean well, they are not helping by encouraging us to take on a profession that is not our divine calling from God.

Most of us who chose not to go to college may accept any job simply for the fact that we feel we should be working. The job may not have anything whatsoever to do with our calling from God.

We generally spend day after day, month after month, year after year on a job, or in a profession, and never earn what we are worth.

Some of us continue in this pattern, until its time to retire, never discovering the special talents we possess that are our gift from God. Why do we do this? Oh, for many different reasons. But the underlying reason always seem to be "security" or what we perceive to be security. We feel that having a job that helps us pay our bills and stashes a way some money for us when we retire, is all that we need in life.

However, the sad part is almost 30% of people die after retiring and never really get a chance to enjoy any of the money that they saved working on that job that they hated. How sad is that?

And, even if they live another 30 years, a lot of times they realize that the money they saved simply wasn't enough.

You are not going to be like that. You are going to discover your purpose so you can live, right now, today, doing what you love; doing what you were meant to do and making the kind of money that you deserve.

But, how does it work? How do you discover your purpose?

It's actually quite simple.

**YOU DISCOVER WHAT YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT, AND
THEN, THINK OF A WAY THAT YOU CAN USE YOUR PASSION TO
SERVICE OTHERS.**

It's as simple as that.

I'm going to give you an example of two young ladies who graduated from college. One will graduate, like most of us, without discovering or having a clue as to what her purpose in life may be, not even knowing she has a purpose. The other will discover her purpose early in life.

*Seeing yourself as you want to be is the key to personal growth.--
Anonymous*

What Happens When We Do Not Discover God's Purpose for Our Life

Chantelle is getting ready for the big day. She is graduating from college with a degree in communications. Her overall grade point average is 3.8 and her grade point average in her major is 4.0. She loves school—always have. Studies always came easy to her. Although most people thought she was smart, she never felt particularly smart.

She just loves to read and learn.

After graduation, Chantelle decides she wants to take the summer off before even thinking about a job. She has made it clear to her parents and to everyone else she knows that since this is going to be her last summer to be completely free, she isn't even going to think about a job until after Labor Day.

This summer, in particular, is great for Chantelle. She continues working her part-time job she had throughout college in order to have spending money so she can do everything she feels a 21 year old would want to do.

She hangs out at the beach; visits friends, parties, and shops and generally have a great time. Before she knows it, summer is ending and Labor Day is here.

Living back at home with her parents after spending four years away at college is starting to cramp her style. Her parents are getting on her case about not having a "real" job after spending so much money on college studies. Her father told her she has until two weeks after Labor Day to find a job or he would put her out.

Chantelle knows he isn't really going to put her out, but she does know that she has to get a job.

Although she had the entire summer to think about it, Chantelle does not have a clue as to what she wants to do with her degree. "Well,"

she thought, "Daddy said I have to get a job. I know I want to work in New York (being born in New Jersey and living in New Jersey all her life, working in New York offers a lot of excitement to Chantelle), I'll just get a New York Times and find a job on Monday."

The Sunday following Labor Day weekend, Chantelle goes to the Quik Chek convenience store and purchases a New York Times.

"Wow, there are so many jobs available. I have no idea what I want to do."

She circles all the classified ads under college entry-level positions and many job offers from Employment Agencies.

Bright and early Monday morning, Chantelle puts on the only suit she owns and jumps on the bus to New York City.

Almost all of the jobs she finds are from employment agencies. "Wow. This is great. They have agencies that find jobs for you. I'm going to let them find me a job."

The job, which appears in the New York Times that Chantelle likes the most, is an entry-level job at a television station. She decides to go to that employment agency first. According to the ad in the New York Times, this agency handles all jobs relating to television positions.

As she opens the door to the agency, she is surprised to see that the waiting room is standing room only. The room is full of people busy filling out applications and hustling and bustling about.

Chantelle walks to the reception desk. "Hello. My name is Chantelle Marable and I'm interested in an ad that appeared in the New York Times for an entry-level position at XYZ Television."

"Please take one of the writing boards and fill out the application. When you finish, return the application to me. If you have a resume, please attach it to the board as well." The receptionist, who never even looked up at her, droned on as if this was the two millionth time she had repeated this line today. Chantelle took the writing board and found a seat.

What seemed like hours after handing her application and information to the receptionist, a counselor called her name.

The counselor shook her hand and walked her to an empty office where she briefly looked over Chantelle's information.

"So, you are a college graduate? What have you been doing since May?" asks the counselor.

"I decided to take the summer off before starting my job hunt."

"Well, let me see, I have an administrative assistant position at an advertising agency that might be good for you."

"Oh, I'm actually interested in the position that was listed in the New York Times yesterday--the entry-level position at XYZ Television."

"That job has already been filled," says the counsel. After seeing the disappointment in Chantelle's face, she quickly adds, "Jobs like that go really fast."

"When was it filled? It was just listed in yesterday's paper. It's only 10:00 a.m.

"But even if that one is filled, according to the newspaper, you specialize in entry-level television positions. See, I have a degree in communications and think I might be interested in getting into television."

"Yes, well right now we don't have anything available. But I can set you up for this administrative assistant job. What I would suggest is that you start in this position and work your way up. Most people don't start in exactly what they want to do. You have to develop a work history. Right now, all you have on your resume are part-time jobs you had during college. That's good because it shows that you have a work ethic, but it really doesn't show any skills related to your field of interest. I suggest you start as a secretary and then work your way up. The advertising industry will also allow you the opportunity to use your communications background. I think you would be excellent for the position as an administrative assistant. They are looking for someone who is bright with a college degree and since you are bright, I see you graduated with a 4.0 in your major, and you have a college

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degree, I think you will fit right in. Are you interested? I can call and set up an appointment for you right away.”

“Ok,” says Chantelle, who is disappointed but still happy that the counsel thinks she may qualify for a job.

Chantelle goes on the interview and gets the job. She is ecstatic. She will be working in New York City and, although she isn't in the field she wanted to be in, she is still working in a field that will utilize her communications degree. Working as an administrative assistant can't be all that bad. She knows how to type and use the computer. Isn't that all that is required? Well, if not, she could learn along the way.

Besides, she doesn't intend to be an administrative assistant for long.

Five years later, Chantelle is working at another job, in another industry all together, and she is still an administrative assistant. She hates her job.

You are what your deep driving desire is; As your deep driving desire is, so is your will; As your will is so is your deed; As your deed is so is your destiny. -- The Upanishads

What Happens When You Know God's Purpose for Your Life

Renee was always interested in numbers. Every since she could remember, numbers have always been a part of her life. She loves to add them, subtract them, divide them and multiply them. When she is eight years old, while everyone in her class is learning times tables, she is secretly learning algebra. By the time she is in the fifth grade, she is getting tutored after school in geometry.

When Renee is in the sixth grade, she learns about a program that is being offered by her state which allows students to tutor other students in an after school program. She volunteers and spent two days a week after school tutoring other students her age and younger, in math.

Renee likes to research everything. By the time she reaches her sophomore year in high school, she has, through research, discovered grants and scholarships offers to students who are exceptionally good in math. By the summer of her senior year in high school, she has applied for and receives enough scholarships to pay her full tuition throughout her four years of college; and she is accepted in the top college that specialized in mathematicians.

Every since her junior year, Renee knew she wanted to be an actuary. Having a career, which would require her to do math all day, excites her. Her summers are spent working, volunteering, and interning as an actuary. By the end of her third year in college, Renee has four job offers. The salary each job is offering her to start is astronomical.

Five years after graduation, Renee is a senior actuary consultant for the largest benefits consulting firm in North America. She makes top dollar and is still excited each morning that she gets up to go to work.

Notice the difference between the way Chantell went about her life and the way Renee went about hers?

Both are exceptionally bright students. However, after Chantelle graduated from college and had to face "the real world," she didn't take the time to discover God's purpose for her life. She has no clue as to where her talents lay or in what skills she possesses that are her gift from God.

Renee, on the other hand, discovered her gift from God at an early age and has spent her life cultivating it. She is happy and successful in her profession because she knows her calling and is working, everyday doing the one thing that God has planned for her.

If you discover your life's purpose, you cannot help but be happy and successful.

You will be doing what you love to do and because you love it, you will be great at it.

Because you are great at what you do, people will notice it and offer to pay you, quite handsomely, for your skills.

Using your gift will make more money than you could ever imagine.

You will be able to provide for yourself and for your family. You will be able to help out your church and other charitable causes because when you discover God's purpose for your life, you will live a happy, healthy and prosperous life.

The purpose of life is to live a life of purpose. -- Leider, Richard

What are you passionate about?

Let's discover your gift from God.

Your gift is something you are passionate about. What is your passion? Before you start thinking, "I'm not passionate about anything." Stop and think.

You have a passion. Each and every one of us is born with a passion.

If you can't think of something you are passionate about off the top of your head, don't worry.

Some of us will be able to answer this question easier than others. The reason is because a lot of times, as we grow older, we learn to put our passions and dreams on the back burner and let life take over.

We concentrate on going to work, paying our bills, cleaning our house or apartments, taking care of our spouses and our children, participating in our church and our communities. Yet, we somehow or the other, put our dreams and passions on hold and eventually we forget about them.

They don't go away. They just lay dormant until one day they are pushed to the forefront. It's sad to report that many people, when confronted with their dreams of the past, feel that it's too late to actually make their dreams come true. It is NEVER too late to start discovering God's purpose for your life and acting on it.

So again, I ask, what are you passionate about?

I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve. -- Schweitzer, Albert

10 Tips That Will Help You Discover Your Life's Purpose and Start Living the Life God Intended You to Live

Tip #1 - Pray!

Yes, that's right. Pray. Pray to God and ask for His guidance in revealing your life's purpose.

You have spent so many years on a job or jobs that have absolutely nothing to do with your life's purpose and you hate it. You've hated every second of it.

Even if you don't hate it, you know that you are not living up to your fullest potential because you feel so empty and incomplete by the work you are doing. You know you have so much more to offer than what you are presently doing. You know it and everyone that knows you know it too.

How many times have you heard people say to you, "You can do so much better than that" (and they are referring to your choice of a job, not about your choice for a mate.)

Well, the first thing you have to do in order to start discovering your life's purpose is Pray. Pray and listen for the answer. Tell God how unsatisfied you are in what you are doing and that you are ready to start living the purpose He has designed exclusively for you.

Ask Him to reveal His purpose for your life so clear and concise that you will have no doubt about what He has meant for you.

Tip #2 - Do an inventory of you.

Sit down, with God close in thoughts, and a piece of paper and pen. Think about all of the things that you really enjoy doing and write them down.

Do a little brainstorming of you. What type of hobbies do you have?

Think of your hobbies and write them down.

Perhaps you like dogs. You have three dogs that you love and with them you spend all of your free time. You've read everything available about the breed of dogs you own. You go to Pet Shows and other dog related events.

Or perhaps you love art or shoes or clothes or trees. It doesn't matter what it may be so long as it's an interest to you. Write it down. Write down all you can think of that you enjoy doing. Talk with God and write down all thoughts that enter your head.

Tip #3. What books and magazines do you read or subscribe to?

If you were to walk into a bookstore right now, where would you automatically be drawn?

What section of the bookstore would you head for?

What would you want to read about?

When you are near a newsstand or on line at the grocery store, what magazines do you pick up and skim through? (Even if it's the National Enquirer, admit it and write it down.)

What magazines do you subscribe to and why? There is a reason you subscribe to a certain magazine and that reason is because it interests you. Write down the names of the magazines you are interested in and the names of the books you usually buy.

Is there a common trend? Is the trend similar to your hobbies and interests that you have listed from Tip #2?

Tip #4 Think of the television shows you like to watch.

Is there a common trend among them?

Why do you like them?

Perhaps you watch the home and garden network because decorating homes interest you.

Perhaps you can't miss an episode of a Columbo repeat because you love detective work. Law & Order can't be missed either.

Maybe you like the channel where they are constantly building things.

I don't know the name of this channel but I've seen it millions of times. You know the one where they take two sticks and a hammer and two commercials later they have build an extra room onto a house.

Perhaps you like to build or find yourself interested in electrical work. Write down the television shows and movies that you find interesting or appealing.

Do they somehow tie into your hobbies and magazine interest?

Tip #5 - What do others say you are good at doing?

A lot of time we cannot see the things we excel at because we are too close to notice. Or sometimes we take our talents for granted or think they are nothing special.

I once knew this guy who could remember a person and their name even if he only met them once, several years prior to meeting them again.

He would not only remember their name, but he would remember where he met them and what they were wearing at the time of the meeting.

He never realized this was a talent. He thought everyone could do it and therefore didn't see it as something special.

Can you think of something that other people say you are good at?

Write it down.

Tip #6 - What did you enjoy doing when you were a little kid?

God reveals our purpose to us over and over again but a lot of times we bury our purpose by life and the things that we think are more important to us.

Sit back now and as the comedian, D.L. Hughley would say, "Let's go back. Way back. Back in the day when we played hide-and-seek, Miss Mary Mack and One-Two-Three Red Light."

Back in the day before Nintendo and the X-Box. Back when girls used to play jump rope in the street and the order in which you jumped depended on "What color was the blood when my mother punched your mother right dead in the nose".

Don't act like you don't remember those days. I know I'm not the oldest person reading this ebook.

Go back to those days and think about the things that you liked to do back then. What activities did you enjoy when you were young?

The things you liked to do when you were young are definitely strong points to think about when you are trying to discover the purpose God has for your life.

Because that is when you were innocent and pure and didn't have to think about bills and other monthly expenses so you did what you enjoyed rather than what you thought you HAD to do.

Tip #7 - Think about anything that excites you.

Don't try to think of things that you want your life's purpose to be because you feel it will make you money. Money is not important right now.

Oprah loved to talk. All of her life she loved to talk.

I'm sure when she was young, she didn't realize at that time that she would become a multi-multi millionaire by simply talking.

Who would have figured? That's why it's not important whether or not you feel the one thing you are interested in will or will not make you any money.

If you do what you love, money will follow. That's the rule. Trust me, it works.

Tip #8 - What are you an expert in?

What could you debate about over and over again and never tire?

There use to be a time in my life when I was really interested in the music industry.

I subscribed to Billboard and Vibe Magazines.

I use to know what albums were dropping on what date and what artist was touring when and where. I could debate with the best of them regarding anything music related.

I knew about the record executives and producers as well. I knew almost everything about the music industry. Why? Because I was interested in it and liked to read about it and talk about it.

What do you like to talk about?

What subject do you debate with your friends about and know more than the average person knows about that subject?

Tip #9 - If you could join any organization or association, or volunteer for an organization, what would it be?

A lot of times we volunteer at our churches to help feed the hungry or distribute gifts around Christmas time to underprivileged children.

We do this because we like to help others that aren't as fortunate as we are.

What would you volunteer to do if there were an organization that would not only let you help others, but also incorporates your interest into it as well?

Is there an organization that you are truly interested in joining or volunteering your time to help? Write down the names and the missions of these organizations.

Tip #10 - All of these tips lead in one direction—your passion.

What are you passionate about?

There is something that makes you excited. There is something that you really enjoy doing above all else.

That one thing is where you should start directing your life. It's the purpose God has for your life.

It's unique and given exclusively to you by God. Accept it and starting living your life's purpose so you may live the life God intended you to live. It is impossible for a man to be cheated by anyone but himself. Ralph Waldo Emerson

Make God Your Career Counselor

When you graduated from high school or college, did you look in the newspaper or on the Internet to look for a job that you felt you were qualified to fill?

Did you go to employment agencies to see if they could help you find a job?

Are you still at that job or in that line of business and simply tired of the same ol', same ol'? Do you feel you are not functioning to your fullest potential?

Are you NOT making enough money to live the life you want to live or the life you would like to live on this boring, non-fulfilling job that doesn't pay you enough to easily pay your 10% tithes and have enough money for your bills each month?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, it's because you didn't consult God before making your career choices. Tsk! Tsk!

Shame on you.

But, don't feel bad, you are not alone. As I told you earlier, millions of people are on jobs or in careers that simply are not the job/career they should have. The reason is because they didn't consult with God first.

For the moment, let's think of God as a sort of Guidance Counselor or Career Counselor, who will help you find the right career for you. What better Counselor could you possibly find?

If you consult God before making any choices in life--listen for the answer, and follow the answer--you will never go wrong.

"How do I listen to God?," you ask?

Well, the answer is simple.

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Go somewhere you could be alone and have peace and quiet and PRAY. Pray to God.

First, before you start asking for things, take some time and thank Him for all the blessings He has given to you. All of them. Thank Him for the fact you woke up this morning; you made it safely to and from the job that you hate; thank Him for the money He gave to pay your bills, etc. You know what to thank Him for.

After you finish thanking God for all that He has done for you, ask Him to reveal to you, your life's purpose. Then, sit and listen. Trust me, it will come to you.

God doesn't make it hard for you to discover your life's purpose or the career He has chosen for you. Just think about the things that make you happy.

What are you passionate about? What gets you excited?

The thing that you are most passionate about is the thing that you should make your life's purpose.

Get a career doing the one thing that makes you happiest. This is what God has chosen for you. This passion was given to you, at birth--as a gift from God.

Who are we to NOT accept a gift that God has given to us?

Start today!

Start discovering where your passions lay.

Dig deep within yourself to see what gifts or talents God has bestowed unto you. And start learning how to change those talents and gifts into a career.

Get a pen and paper and write down all the things that you are passionate about. Then, start thinking of ways to turn your passion into a career. In other words, start living the life God intended for you to live.

Exercise

What do you enjoy doing?

If you could do anything all day long, what would it be?

What are your hobbies and interest?

Take sometime and think about where your passions lay.

Use the next page to write down all the things that you are passionate about.

Go as far back as necessary, back to your childhood if you have to, to think about something that you really enjoy(ed) doing. Ready? Let's go.

Some of you may have found that exercise quite simple. Others may find it difficult to determine their passions. This is usually the biggest problem people face when I consult them on discovering God's purpose for their life and incorporating it into a career. The problem is, they cannot pinpoint their passion. Or, some say they aren't passionate about anything.

If we dig deep enough, we discover our passions and dreams. Everyone has passions and dreams. You may simply have pushed yours further back in your memory than others may have.

Perhaps you love music, or sewing, writing, reading, giving parties, playing a sport like basketball, volleyball, tennis or hockey. Or perhaps you like children or maybe even roller-skating.

Whatever you can think of, write it down.

Some people tell me they have no passions. When they get home from work the only thing they do is watch television. If that's the case, write down "love television". There are many interests you can develop from television. You may have an interest in advertising, television writing, producing or maybe even acting.

I've watched celebrity actor/actress after celebrity tell their life story which usually started out with them watching and developing a love for television which started them into acting. So, if you like television, write it down.

Maybe you like to clean your house, or you get extremely excited about cooking, or organizing your closet. It doesn't matter how small of an interest you may think it is, it is still a passion that you are good at because your passion is a gift from God.

Take as long as you want to and write down as much stuff as you possibly can think of that you enjoy doing.

When you complete your list, you should see similarities in your interest and are on your way to developing your life's purpose.

Each small task of everyday is part of the total harmony of the universe. -- St. Theresa of Lisieux

God's Trying to Tell You Something

Have you ever waked up in the middle of the night because you had a great idea? So powerful is this idea that it is hard for you to get back to sleep because you cannot help but think about it.

Perhaps you were driving alone in your car and a thought entered your head that made you say, "Hmmm!" (Remember Arsenio Hall's "Things that make you go "Hmmmmm?")

Maybe you were sitting alone in your living room, relaxing and an inspiration came to you--telling you to do something; take some sort of action.

These thoughts are your souls way of communicating with you. Don't ignore them! God's trying to tell you something.

I believe your thoughts are your angels sent here to watch over you. If you ever really listen to your thoughts, they don't usually lead you astray. (That is if your mind is clear to start off with. I'm not talking about those folks that claim a voice in their head told them to chop up their entire family. Those people have something else in them that we won't even get into here.)

From this point on, listen to those thoughts. Write the thoughts down immediately. Don't delay. Get into the habit of carrying a notebook with you so when God starts trying to tell you something, you will be prepared to take notes.

These ideas, inspirations, thoughts will help you discover your life's purpose. If you listen hard enough, you will receive a complete blueprint on how to live your life the way God intended you to live.

"I'm always thinking about creating. My future starts when I wake up every morning. Every day I find something creative to do with my life." – Miles Dewey Davis

Finding Your Passion

I once dated a guy who loved music. Whenever I would stop by his house, he would be sitting in front of his stereo listening to music. He loved all kinds of music.

Most of his extra cash went into purchasing the latest tapes and CD's. There were many occasions when I would visit him and we would spend hours talking about music. He also read a lot of music-related magazines and newsletters.

He didn't play any musical instruments and he couldn't sing very well either.

He worked at a job that he hated and didn't pay him very much for his services. He had just enough money to get by and to afford a few extra luxuries, such as his obsession with the latest music releases. Because I've always been the type of person who is curious as to why people settle in jobs that do not compliment their personalities, and have absolutely nothing to do with God's purpose for their life, I questioned his choice of a profession.

He said it was just a job. He needed a job. He looked for work and was hired. He had never thought about working in a field where you could use his passion for music. For some reason, that thought never crossed his mind.

However, He confided in me that when he was young, his mother always had music playing in their home. By the time he was teenaged, he purchased DJ equipment and started DJing for his friends and family members. But, he never took it seriously and never even thought about making a living being a DJ.

I'm happy to add that he is no longer working in a profession that conflict with his personality. He is using his passion for music and is working as a mobile DJ.

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Discovering God's purpose for your life is as simple as that. If you discover what you are passionate about, you will discover God's purpose for your life.

EXERCISE TO DISCOVER YOUR PURPOSE

I want you know to do a simple exercise. A lot of Career Development organizations present this exercise to their clients. It's called Seven Stories of Success.

Seven Stories of Success

What I want you to do is think of something that you accomplished in your life. It doesn't matter how old you were when you accomplished your goal or whether or not anyone else knew about it or that anyone else thought it was an accomplishment. All that matters is that you thought it was an accomplishment.

I want you to think of the outcome. On a piece of paper, write down exactly what you did to reach the outcome. Be as detailed oriented as possible.

Write down how the idea or accomplishment started and explain every step until you reached your goals.

Example: I lost ten pounds. I made up my mind to lose the weight. I joined a gym. I cut out all junk food and added more fruits and vegetables to my diet. I exercised six days a week. I lost the weight and was able to get into the new dress I bought myself.

Of course it could be more detailed and more specific.

After you finish one, write six more stories.

This exercise should show a common trend among the things you are good at, the things you accomplished in your life. You should have a pretty good sense of your purpose.

*"It is not death that a man should fear, but he should fear never beginning to live."
-- Marcus Aurelius*

Your Purpose Will Compliment Your Lifestyle

God's purpose for your life will compliment every aspect of your lifestyle. In my example listed above, my friend choice of being a DJ complimented his lifestyle perfectly.

He loves music, yet he isn't a musician in the sense that he can play an instrument. Nor has he been blessed with vocal abilities that are exceptional. Yet, he found a way that he could incorporate his passion for music into a career that he is passionate about.

This is what you will have to do. When you find your passion, you must incorporate it into your lifestyle so that it compliments your lifestyle and not hinders it.

Here's another example.

Sharon works as an Activities Director at a nursing home for the elder. She is in charge of all the activities the seniors at the home participates in. She loves her job yet it keeps her away from home a lot and therefore away from her 6-year-old daughter.

It became increasingly difficult for her to perform her job well because we works so much and the fact that she isn't spending time with her daughter, bothers her.

Sharon would have to come up with a solution that would work better for her lifestyle. She would have to find some way where she could be an Activities Director, but still have enough time to spend with her daughter.

After giving it some thought, she decided to be a free-lanced activity director. She started shopping her services to senior nursing homes in her area and started handling one senior home on Monday for two hours; one on Tuesday for two hours; one on Wednesday for two hours, and two hours at difference locations on both Thursday and Friday as well.

She makes more money than she ever did working at one place and she had plenty enough time to take her daughter to school, pick her up from school and take her any place they wants to go.

Do you see how she incorporated God's purpose for her life into her lifestyle so that it was productive, prosperous and beneficial for her? Because she is working at five different facilities, she is able to meet and network with more people, have a variety and mix to her job so that she doesn't burn out and establish herself as an expert.

Fixing God's purpose for your life always fits your lifestyle because God designed it that way for you.

"To make the right choices in life, you have to get in touch with your soul. To do this, you need to experience solitude, which most people are afraid of, because in the silence you hear the truth and know the solutions." –Deepak K. Chopra

Three secrets of successfully finding your life's purpose.

Secret #1: You must decide exactly what you have to offer the world

Secret #2: You must decide exactly where you want to use your skills

Secret #3: You must go after the organizations that interest you the most

Secret #1 - You must decide exactly what you have to offer the world

You have a passion. You have a "calling" which makes you very passionate about something. You know more about this subject than most people. You get energized when discussing this issue with others.

This passion, this obsession, this craze, this delight is a gift to you from the Almighty God. He is waiting for you to offer this gift to the world.

He didn't give it to you to keep it for yourself. Oh, no. Your job is to offer your gift from God as a service to others.

Think of ways you can offer your passion as a service to others.

Secret #2 You must decide exactly where you want to use your skills.

In order to be completely happy in your search of turning your God given talents into a career that would make you both happy and fulfilled, you must decided exactly "where" you want to use your skills.

"Where, what does she mean by 'where'?"

I know that is what you were thinking. I heard ya.

By where, I mean exactly that. Where do you want to work?

Do you want to work close to your home? in your home? far from your home? Do you like to commute? drive to work? ride the bus, or take a train?

Let's say you are the type of person who hates to drive in rush hour traffic. Looking for work where you will have an hour commute that requires you to drive on a major highway is not the place for you. Location is an important factor when determining where you want to offer your services.

By "where" I also mean what type of company?

It is important that the company you work for have the same morals, ethic and principals you value.

It would never work if you were an accountant, who has beliefs that are strongly against the pornography business. Yet, you accept a job as in accountant for a sleaze magazine. You will never feel comfortable, nor will you work for the company long. Either you will quit because of your discomfort, or you will get fired because your heart would never be into the work.

Therefore, knowing exactly where you want to work is just as important as knowing what you have to offer.

Secret #3 You must go after the organization that interest you the most

Now that you have established what you have to offer the world (your God given talent) and where you desire to offer your talent (what location, geographical and industrial)-- your next step is to find an organization that you would be interested in presenting your services.

Undoubtedly, with all the other activities you are doing in making the move to start living your life with purpose, you have probably come into contact with several names of different companies. You may even have a company in mind that you would like to approach and offer your talents in exchange for a salary. Well, don't jump the gun just yet.

It is important to research the company or organization thoroughly before approaching them in any way.

What you need to know about a prospective employer:

- The history, size, and growth of the company
- Any current events that affect the company
- Their profitability, products, and services
- The financial history and current status
- The organizational structure and its key management
- The company philosophy and culture
- Any recent changes in company structure
- Any changes in product or service lines
- The geographic area job trends
- The type of position you are applying for

Some resources available:

- Employer's Annual Report
- Employer's Recruitment Literature (often part of the Annual Report),
- The Career Guide: Dun's Employment Opportunities Directory, ValueLine Investment Survey
- Company directories and profiles
- Government publications
- Popular newspapers and magazines
- Trade and professional association publications.

Beware that printed material becomes outdated very quickly.

Check out these sites for research assistance. Hoover's, Inc. (Nasdaq: HOOV) delivers comprehensive company, industry, and market intelligence that drives business growth. Hoover's provides sales, marketing, business development, and recruiting professionals with the global business intelligence they need to prospect and prepare for client meetings, sales presentations, vendor and partner negotiations, and other business opportunities. <http://www.hoovers.com>

Vault industry channels bring you the insider research, community, and career tools you need to get in and stay ahead. You'll find Insider guides, Company profiles, Message boards, Firm rankings, Industryspecific job boards. <http://www.vault.com>.

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A great book to read is "What Color Is Your Parachute?" by Richard Bolles. Actually, the titles for the Three Secrets listed above were pulled from this book.

***I bargained with Life for a penny,
And Life would pay no more
However, I begged at evening
When I counted my scanty store
For Life is a just employer,
He gives you what you ask,
But once you have set the wages,
Why, you must bear the task.
I worked for a menial's hire,
Only to learn dismayed,
That any wage I had asked for Life,
Life would have willingly paid.***

"Our only limitations are those we set up in our own minds." – Napoleon Hill

Stop Being So Selfish

Whether you want to believe it or not, you are very selfish. Yes, you. I know it isn't good manners to call people who purchase your book, selfish, but what better way to get you to realize how selfish you really are.

More than likely you aren't even aware of it.

OK. Maybe you are not selfish, but I know there are a few of you out there who are. Read on and I'll explain why.

God gave you a gift, a blessing, and since you aren't using your gift to help others benefit, than you are being down right selfish.

When God blessed you with this gift His intention was for you to share your gift--not keep your gift for yourself or only share it with the few people who happen to be close to you and could benefit from your blessings.

No, that was not His intention at all.

Imagine if Moses decided to keep his blessings to himself.

Let's say he decided to ask God to part the Red Sea just so he could get across and left everyone else on the other side.

Suppose he received the Ten Commandments and kept it for himself so only he could follow God's golden rules.

You wouldn't help but say, "Man, Moses, you are dead wrong."

Imagine if when Jesus told Peter to quit his job as a fisherman and come with Him so He could make him fisher of men and Peter said, "Naw, Man. I got to catch this fish. You know I hate this job, but it has great benefits."

So, Peter never quits his job, continues to be a fisherman and never gets the blessings that were in store for him, and you and me.

Sounds crazy don't it?

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Than why doesn't it sound crazy when you ignore God's calling to quit your job and follow His plan for your life. Why aren't you letting him make you fisher's of men?

You know there is something that you are better at doing than everyone else. Whether it's something that comes nature to you or something that you've worked hard to accomplish, it's your blessing from God.

If you continue to ignore this blessing and keep your gift to yourself, you are being selfish.

Start today. Make a commitment to yourself that you will start living the life God has planned for you to live and start living it.

You only live once- but if you work it right, once is enough. --- Joe E. Lewis

Age Ain't Nothing But a Number

I have often heard people say, time and time again, "I'm too old to start discovering my purpose and changing my life."

That, my friend, is absolutely NOT TRUE!

In the words of the late Aaliyah, "Age Ain't Nothing But a Number."

You are never too old or too young to discover God's purpose for your life and start living it.

Remember that Jesus was 30 years old when He preformed His first miracle.

Finding God's purpose for your life will be the most rewarding thing you could ever do for yourself. Why should it matter how old you are?

Think of it this way... Let's say Gazu (remember the little, Martian guy from the Flintstones that would grant wishes for Fred and Barney?)

Let's say he came to you one day and said, "Okay, Dumb-Dumb, when I snap my finger, from this day on you will live a happy, wealthy and fulfilling life. Ready, Dumb-Dumb?"

Would you say, "Oh, no. Give my gift to someone else. I'm too old to be happy. Let someone young have the happiness and wealth. They have longer to enjoy it." Heck, no! I don't know anyone who would.

If you never take time to discover God's purpose for your life, it's the same as giving up your happiness for however many remaining years you have in this world.

If you are using age as an excuse to not get started on discovering God's purpose for your life, than you are continuing to hold off on your happiness, your success and your wealth. Always remember, age ain't nothing but a number.

The universe is change; our life is what our thoughts make it. --Aurelius, Marcus

"But I don't have any experience!"

So many of us say this once we discover our life's purpose. We know exactly what we should be doing with our life but feel we are not qualified to do it because we do not have any experience.

After graduating from high school or college, or after we start to learn about ourselves and discover our passions and decide to turn our passions into careers, we start to think, "I can't find a career doing this. They are going to look for someone with experience to do this job. I don't have any experience."

This simply is not true. Just because you haven't worked on a job that required you to use these skills, doesn't mean you are not experienced. You have life experience and in my opinion, that is worth so much more.

A lot of people decide what their purpose in life is and then get a newspaper and start looking at ads they feel would allow them to live their life's purpose. These ads require 2 years of experience, 5 years, 10 years and they decide they cannot apply.

If you have a passion for something, you will more than likely, have experience.

Let's say you have completed a self-assessment and discovered that you are passionate about planning events.

All of your life you threw parties and get-togethers. You threw a huge birthday party for your mother's 50th birthday that had a large turnout and everyone enjoyed it.

They enjoyed it so much that for months afterwards, they couldn't stop talking about the wonderful time they had at this party.

You have also planned get-togethers that everyone you invite attends because they know your parties are the best.

So, you have decided you want to be a Party Planner.

"But I don't have any experience."

You think because even though you have planned successful events since forever, you were never paid for the events. You did them because you enjoyed doing it.

Just because you weren't paid, doesn't mean that you don't have experience. Let's look at what was involved in planning your mother's 50th birthday party.

You came up with the idea. Then you put together a list of people you wanted to invite. You planned a date and time; selected a location; designed and printed invitations; arranged catered food; decorated the location; and hosted the event.

There were probably a million other little things that were involved as well. Sounds like experience to me. And to anyone else that is listening.

Let's say, for the past 5 years, you have planned different events—for family, for friends, for the Student Union at school.

This is experience. You could take this experience and put it on a resume and submit it to a corporate event planning company. OK. Let's say you honestly do not have experience in your chosen field. This does not necessarily mean you will have to go back to school to gain the experience.

If you do not have any experience in the field that you have decided is your life's purpose--that's not a problem. You can always get experience by VOLUNTEERING.

Find a non-profit organization that will allow you to do the type of work that you would like experience in, and volunteer. If you are in college, find a company and intern with them to gain experience.

Check with your local Chamber of Commerce and volunteer to help out at some of their functions.

There are thousands of organizations in which you could volunteer to gain experience if you feel you need it. (Go to <http://www.about.com> and do a search on "volunteering".)

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You will be gaining so much by volunteering. First, you will have an opportunity to gain experience in the field you wish to enter. Secondly, you will feel good by helping or serving others. Thirdly, you will be able to meet people who are involved in the field you wish to enter. Network with them and learn all that you possibly can about your chosen field.

Gain experience and serve people. What better way is there to start living your life's purpose so you can live the life God intended you to live!

A Quitter never wins. A Winner never quits.

I Can Do All Things through Christ, Who Strengthens Me. (Philippians 4:13)

It is so hard to try and change old habits.

You find yourself stuck in a job that you hate. You don't get paid enough. You often feel bad about yourself. Or you simply are not happy with what you do to make a living.

The funny thing is, you feel you can do nothing about it.

You tell yourself, "I have to stay at this job because the economy is so bad, I'm afraid to leave."

You continue to tell yourself this even if you are working at a job that is simply not the right job for you. It's not the job or the career God has called you to do.

Why are you stuck?

You are stuck because you choose not to listen to God.

Instead of listening to God, you listen to yourself or to your friends and family who say you can't do this and you can't do that.

It seems that the bigger your dreams, the more someone tells you that you cannot make your dreams come true. Or that your dreams are silly or plain ridiculous.

And you believe them.

Why do you believe them and not God who tells you that you can do all things through Christ?

Why do you choose to believe your negative friends over God. They will have you believe that because you were born a certain race or a to certain class, you cannot make something of your life.

I am here to tell you, you can do and be anything you desire. You can live your life with a purpose. You can do whatever you believe you can do. The power is in the mind. The magic is in believing.

If you believe, with all your heart, that you can do all things through Christ, than with Christ you CAN get a career in whatever it is you desire to do.

YOU CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST.

If you make up your mind to start living life with a purpose, God's purpose for your life, you will be able to do it. So long as you believe you can.

If you ever find yourself at the point where you are starting to doubt your ability to do something, just remember this one verse, "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me."

Make it a practice. Make it a habit. When you wake up each morning and thank the Lord for allowing you to see another day, just say to yourself, "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me." When you find yourself at any point in life, slipping back into your old habits or old routines, just say to yourself, "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me."

If you put this practice to use, you will find yourself in the career designed exclusively for you. The career designed for your purpose. The career that will help you serve others and yourself far more than you ever could on this job that you have right now. You will be living God's purpose for your life.

My father didn't tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it. -- Clarence Buddinton Kelland

Planning for Your Life

My girlfriend just recently took a trip to Rome with another girlfriend of hers. They were really excited because they were leaving the husbands and the kids at home and spending time with themselves to do something they enjoyed.

My girlfriend received all types of brochures and information regarding traveling in Rome--what sites to visits, the best hotels, the best places to eat, etc.

About a month before they were leaving, she had a complete itinerary of events to keep them stimulated every second of their vacation. A week prior to her departure she had her bags packed and knew exactly what she was going to wear, what day she was going to wear it and what she would be doing while she was wearing it on her visit to Rome.

This brought to mind how so many people spend time planning their vacations. They have one or two weeks given to them by their job and they are excited about the prospect of going away. They plan where they are going to go. They plan what they are going to bring. They even plan a daily schedule of events so they don't miss the important sites they want to visit.

The same thing happens with wedding. The banquet hall is usually booked a year in advance. Each month there is a plan and a goal that has to be met in order for the wedding to run smoothly.

I started to think. Exactly how much time do we put into planning our lives? The answer for most of us is NONE. We don't have life plans. We simply go day to day following a simple routine that we have programmed ourselves to follow. We do this mainly because we have not realized the purpose for our lives.

Let's start today. Let's live life with a purpose.

5 Tips for Planning Your Life

1. Find a quiet place and ask God for guidance. Ask him to reveal your purpose in life. And listen as your soul speaks to you.
2. Get a piece of paper and pencil and write down your thoughts (your thoughts are your angels, trying to tell you something) of where you would like to be in your life this time next year. Let your imagination run wild. There's a saying, "If you can dream it, you can achieve it." Just dream about where you would like to be. You might want to own your own home next year, but right now you are living in a one-bedroom apartment. Don't think this is unobtainable. Write it down. You might want to start your own business and have it up and running by next year. Write it down. Let your imagination flow and write down all of your dreams and desires.
3. Think of all the things you will have to do that will get you to the point you would like to be. This could mean you have to read a few self-help books, join an organization or two, research your field of interest volunteer or take a few courses.
4. Now break it down. What would you have to do this month that will move you closer to reaching your desire goals? What would you have to do this week? What would you have to do today?
5. Now do it!

Get in the habit of planning your life. It lasts even after the vacation and the wedding has ended. It's the most important plan you can make.

Remember, when planning your life, let your conscious (or soul) be your guide.

"Every adversity brings with it the seed of an equivalent advantage." – Napoleon Hill

With God, Getting out of the Comfort Zone is Quite Easy

Getting out of our comfort zone ain't always easy. I know personally because I was stuck in the comfort zone for so many years.

Even though you are aware that you should be living your life with a purpose, to serve others, and be happy, you continue to stay on a job or in a career that is neither exciting, challenging nor fulfilling. It's because you are stuck in your comfort zone.

So easily we get stuck. We hate our jobs. We are not happy in our marriage or with our mate. We are 20 lbs. overweight. Yet, we are comfortable. We hate it but FEAR has us afraid to make any changes.

It reminds of a story I once heard. A father and son were walking in the park and saw a man sitting on a bench. The man was obviously in a lot of pain. The father asked the man what was wrong. The man replied that he was sitting on a tack. The little boy looked at his father and asked, "If he's sitting on a tack and it's causing him pain, why doesn't he just get up." The father replied, "I guess it isn't hurting him enough."

You are in pain every day when you go to a job you were not meant for. But, the pain isn't hurting you enough and that is why you continue to stay. Why not simply get off the tack?

Psalms 143:10 says, "You are my God. Show me what You want me to do, and let Your gentle Spirit lead me in the right path."

Doesn't that one verse make it simple to get off of that tack? Just knowing that God will show me what he wants me to do and will lead me up the right path is enough for me to jump off that tack and start following God.

Take time each day and let God show you what he wants you to do. Listen to your spirit, your God within. Let Him guide you in your everyday happenings. If you make a habit of listening to God's gentle Spirit, in no time at all you will be out of your comfort zone, off of that tack, and running down the right path that is meant only for you.

"Tell the world what you intend to do, but first show it." – Napoleon Hill

Incorporating Your Life's Purpose into a Lucrative Career

Even though we have discovered God's purpose for our life, we still have one BIG question.

"How do I incorporate God's purpose for my life into a career?"

How am I suppose to change from being an administrative assistant; a bus driver; or a janitor to a writer of books; an event planner; the CEO of my own record company?

That will take too much time and too much work to change (so you think).

Wouldn't it be nice if you were Major Nelson?

Remember him? He found a "Jeannie" and kept her in a bottle at his house. Whenever he wanted something, no matter how big or outrageous, all he had to do was open the bottle and a beautiful, young lady, wearing too few clothes would appear and grant his every wish. Doesn't matter that most times she would mess up the request, because that's what kept us watching.

Unfortunately, that only happens in television shows. In real life, you must work every day to make your dreams come true. Your dreams are your life's purpose. That's what dreams are -- God way of communicating with us.

Hard work, determination, perseverance that is what everyone always tells us is the secret to incorporating your passions into a career. But the main key is somehow never mentioned. A lot of motivational speakers constantly give the message that you can do anything.

You can.

But you can do anything through Christ. There's a difference. You can't always do anything by yourself. But with Christ, you can.

You CAN go from being a janitor to being the CEO of your own record label. If you can dream it, you can achieve it. You simply need God along with you to help you make the right choices and help you when you are unable to help yourself.

Let me give you an example:

Susan worked as an office manager for a consulting firm. In the beginning, she sort of liked the job. It was interesting, but not too challenging.

As the years went by, she liked her job less and less. Eventually, everything about the job drove her nuts. However, the economy was bad and so she thought since she already had a job, she might as well stay. And so, stay she did, each day growing less and less interested in her job.

It had gotten to the point where getting up each morning to go to her job was starting to be a really big hassle.

Susan had a great interest in drawing. She had always been able to draw. Whenever she wanted to relax, she would get out her drawing paper and pencils and draw a picture. It was really soothing to Susan. When she drew, she could block the world out and all its distractions. Secretly, Susan wanted to draw the illustrations of children's books.

She wasn't a great writer, but she could visualize her drawings blessing the pages of a book that taught morals and values to children. This was an idea she thought about every now and again.

It was a dream.

A dream she never reacted on because she didn't think she had the ability to see it through.

Then, one day, she signed up for the Your Life's Purpose newsletter (another shameless plug, smooth how I threw that in there, right? You can sign up too, by sending a blank email to yourlifepurpose-subscribe@topica.com) and learned that she could do all things through Christ.

Susan started to believe that drawing pictures for children's books could be something she could do. But where would she start? She didn't have any idea where to begin so she began with what she did know. She began to pray. She made up her mind that she would think and pray about it all the time until an answer came to her. After giving it to God, Susan started to receive signs that God was working with her. The biggest sign was when she ran into a girlfriend from high school that she hadn't seen in ages. They exchanged numbers and Susan gave her a call.

During this conversation, Susan discovered that her high school buddy was interested in writing children's books but wasn't exactly sure how or where to begin.

This was the beginning of a beautiful friendship, partnership and business venture. Susan and Diane (her high school friend), researched the industry, learned from each other, took classes and did everything they had to do, constantly thanking God and asking him for guidance on their journey.

They have now produced several children's books, which brings in more money than Susan ever made as an office manager.

Coincidence that Susan ran into Diane?

I personally do not believe in coincidences. I believe in divine intervention. Once you start moving closer to God, God will move closer to you and things will start happening in your life that will allow you to live the life He planned for you to live.

Action Point: Start today. Pinpoint your life's purpose. Pray to God to guide you in making your dreams a reality. Thank God all day, every day and then sit back and watch him start to move in your life. It's amazing and incredible. Try it. What have you got to lose except your lousy job?

1 Timothy 2:8 "I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting your holy hands, without wrath and doubting."

You Are What You Think

In order to move from your present career into a career that will fit God's purpose for your life, you have to change the way you think. Your thoughts play an important role in who you are and who you will become. You are a combination of all the thoughts you ever had.

Have you ever heard the saying, "The man who thinks he can and the man who thinks he can't are both right?"

If you think or believe you can do something, you will be able to do it.

No matter how scary or how much it will change the way you are, if you believe you can do it, you will.

It doesn't matter if others have doubts.

You must never let their opinions influence your thinking.

There must not be any doubt whatsoever that you can discover God's purpose for your life and incorporate it into a career. As soon as doubt creeps into your thoughts, it casts a shadow over your positive thoughts.

You must at all time, believe, that you can do the thing that you are determined to do.

Let's say that you are presently working in a factory making minimum wages. You have recently discovered God's purpose for your life and you have learned that you are a clothes designer at heart. You have always been passionate about fashion and design.

However, because of your financial situation, you have not been able to pursue your dream. But, now you know you can. Because you know and understand "The 4 Steps to Positive Thinking."

4 steps to Positive Thinking

Step 1: *Visualization:*

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- Visualize yourself being a top fashion designer.
- Visualize the house you will live in once you are earning the money this career will bring you.
- Visualize the car you will be driving.
- Visualize living in the house and driving the car.
- Visualize yourself joyfully paying your 10% tithes will ease.
- Visualize yourself writing out a large check to a charity of your choice.
- As often as you can, during the day, visualize your future, the way you want it to be.

Step 2. **Thank God:**

- Thank God for allowing you to live your life's purpose. Even though you are presently going to work at a factory, thank God in advance, for how you will be able to live and do the work that will make you happy.
- Thank God all day everyday. Do not just wait until Sunday and go to church to thank Him.
- Thank Him constantly for all that he has done for you. Believe with blind faith that you have already received all the riches and happiness from Him and thank Him consistently.
- You do not have to wait until nighttime before you are going to bed to thank Him. Thank Him while you are at work. Thank Him while your driving in your car on your way to the supermarket. Thank God for all that He has done for you.

Step 3. **Give Value for Value:**

- Never try to cheat anyone when you are offering your services.
- Give value for value. If someone pays you money for a service, make sure he/she receives more than what they pay for.
- If you constantly make sure you satisfy your fellow human being, you will constantly be in demand. If you are a fashion designer, make sure your clothes are made with the finest material you can afford and charge accordingly. If you always give value to whatever service you offer, you will continue to grow and flourish.

Step 4. **Never Let Negative Thoughts Enter Your Mind:**

- If you find yourself thinking negative thoughts, immediately divert your thinking. Negative thoughts are destroyers of dreams.
- Never listen to others who have doubts and are negative. Remove yourself from their presence as quickly as you can.

- If you know someone who is always negative, do not even share your thoughts or hopes with him/her. It doesn't even matter if the negative person is your spouse. Keep your thoughts to yourself. He/She will see the results of your positive thinking and will then understand the power of positive thinking. And, will, hopefully, decide to become more positive.

If you practice the process of positive thinking, you will be amazed at how fast your life will change. How fast you will be able to start living your life with purpose. How fast God will start moving in your life.

Have faith in God and have faith in yourself. Always remember, with God all things are possible. So long as you keep God in your heart and in your mind, discovering his purpose and being able to incorporate it into a career, will be a cinch.

What you can believe, you can achieve – Napoleon Hill

Learn to Do Away With Stinkin' Thinkin'

Learning to clear our mind of "stinkin' thinkin'" will bring us closer to discovering God's purpose for our life.

Whether you know it or not, you are a sum total of all the things you think on a daily basis.

The saying, "You are what you eat" can also be said as "You are what you think."

If you ever took the time to study the brain and how it functions you would be amazed at how wonderful this creation of God's truly is. It's amazing.

What we put into our mind comes out in the form of who we are and what we think of ourselves.

If you constantly think negative thoughts and say negative things, you will be a negative person. Everything around you will be negative. No matter how hard you try to do something, the results will always be the same – negative.

You have no one else to blame for it but yourself. You are the soul controller of your life and your destiny. Your parents have a great influence on you and the way they brought you up contributes largely to the way you think and feel today. Teachers and other "authorities" contribute to the way we think of ourselves as well.

However, the bottom line remains the same. You are the soul controller of your destiny. If you were born or raised with negative thinking people who taught you to think negative, you can make up your mind to change your "stinking thinking" and to change your life. Let me explain to you how life works. This will get down to the crux of whether or not you will live your life's purpose.

No matter what happened in the past, it is just that—past. You can choose to simply forget it and make a decision that from this moment

on, you will be a completely new person. You will create yourself again. You will be born again.

When you are "born again" in the spirit, your mind and everything else becomes new. You have a new outlook on life.

This is a new way to start life fresh, with absolutely no past. Your past cannot be a hindrance because you are born again. You are given a second chance.

A second chance to change your life. A second chance to change the way you think about life.

If you learn to always think positive, you will be amazed at the transformation your mind, body and soul will undertake.

Your life will change drastically. You will have an amazing "ah ha" moment, as Oprah calls it.

The sad part is that some of you reading this book, because of the way you have conditioned yourself to think negatively, will read this and think, "Yeah, right. I'm tired of this entire "think positive" hocus-pocus. It doesn't work for me."

The reason it doesn't work for you is because you are thinking negatively.

Let's try this. Let's start with something simple. Think of something that you want. Something small. Let's say you want someone to either bake or give you a small cake.

During the course of the day, when you are not busy doing something, I want you to picture, in your mind, someone giving you that cake. All day. Whenever you have a spare minute.

When you wake up in the morning and you are taking your shower and getting dressed, don't listen to music, imagine someone giving you a piece of cake. When you are driving into work, turn off the radio and keep your mind focused on receiving a piece of cake.

Be specific about the cake. What kind of cake is it? Is it a chocolate cake? A cup cake? Be as specific as you possibly can.

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When you are at work and you find yourself day dreaming about something irrelevant, stop thinking about that and think about someone giving you a piece of cake.

Have faith enough to believe that you will receive that piece of cake and start thanking God for it, in advance. Go out on blind faith and believe that you will receive that cake and therefore you are thanking God for blessing you with that piece of cake.

Do you know what will happen if you think about it hard enough?

Someone will bring you a piece of cake or a cupcake or a doughnut. When it happens, don't say, "Oh, that was just a coincidence." There is no such thing as coincidence, just divine intervention.

Of course it doesn't have to be something as simple as a piece of cake.

We can dream bigger. The bigger your dreams the better.

You may discover that God's purpose for your life is to start your own business. If so, first you must decide what business you want to go into. You have to have a clear picture of your purpose.

What type of business is it? Where is this business located? Is it run from your home? Do you have an office? Are you located in a big city or in a small town? How many employees does the business employ? Is it a self-run, one-man/woman show?

Once you get a clear picture of your life's purpose, you must constantly focus on it. Think about it as often as you possibly can. Visualize yourself being this person that you will become. Be as precise and detailed about it as you possibly can. When you think about it visualize every single detail.

If it helps cut out pictures from magazines and other periodical relating to your life's purpose. Focus on these pictures every chance you can.

The more you think about your life's purpose, the quicker you will start living your life's purpose.

You are a child of the Universe, no less than the moon and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the Universe is unfolding as it should. -- Ehrmann, Max

How to Stay Motivated

You read a book that motivates you to action; you read a motivational quote and get pumped up; you attend a seminar and listen to a motivational speaker and feel you can conquer the world.

A week later the motivation is no longer there. If it is still there, it is not as powerful or as strong as it felt while you were listening or reading the message.

You must train yourself to hold on to the motivation.

Let me tell you about Keshia.

Keshia had attended a "How to Discover God's Purpose for Your Life" seminar presented by the world-famous, motivational speaker and trainer extraordinaire, (shameless plug).

After the event ended, Keshia was pumped. She was excited. She was on a mission to determine her God-given talents and apply them to her life. She sure hated working as a waitress and knew she had more to offer the world, to herself and to her family.

Keshia made up her mind that she was going to stay motivated no matter what happened. She had a strong desire to change her life.

She went home and wrote out her goals on a piece of notebook paper and posted it on the refrigerator.

After giving it some thought, she decided to make several copies of her goals. In addition to the copy posted on the refrigerator, she posted one on the head of her bed. She posted one on the wall next to the mirror in the bathroom. One was posted on the front door of her apartment. Another was posted on the inside of her closet door, right above the mirror.

Keshia figured this would be a great way to always be mindful of her goals. No matter where she turned, she would have a reminder. She even posted one at her station at work.

Spending a lot of time in the car between school and work, Keshia decided to purchase motivational tapes and CD's to play in her car. Why waste time listening to music of other people who are living their life's purpose when she could be doing something to help her discover and live her God-given purpose?

Whenever Keshia had a free second, she would daydream about herself living the life she was meant to live. She would visualize it so clear and so precise that she could feel it.

Almost immediately after putting this into practice, Keshia started seeing results. She thanked God every chance she got. She thanked him for the immediate changes. She thanked him for the changes she knew were about to happen but hadn't happened yet. She thanked him because she knew within her heart that they were going to happen.

Keshia has trained herself to stay motivated. I'm willing to bet the farm that Keshia will be living her life's purpose in a little no time. Let's look at Keshia did to stay motivated.

1. **Desire** – She had a desire to stay motivated. You must have a strong desire, a burning desire, in order to stay motivated. You must have a reason to hold on to your motivation. Otherwise, if the desire isn't strong enough, the motivation won't last long.
2. **Plan** – She had an exact plan and wrote down her goals. You must have an exact plan. It should be written out, something you can look at and go back to from time to time.
3. **Making her dream visual** – She put up reminders to make her goals purposeful and made it so she was always mindful of them. You must constantly surround yourself with reminders to help you stay focused.
4. **Constantly thinking of her purpose** -- She changed her habits and started focusing full-time on her goals. You must change your habits from spending your free time watching television, listening to the radio

or reading a novel, to thinking constantly and working constantly on your goals.

5. **She repeatedly thanked God** for his blessings she has received and for those she knows she is about to receive. Have blind faith in the Lord that he will send you your blessings. He wants it for you just as much as you want it for yourself. Don't ever forget to thank him. You can't thank him enough.

Your life's purpose isn't a secret or a mystery. The closer you draw to God the more you will receive word from Him on exactly how you are to pursue your life's purpose.

You will never achieve your life's purpose if you do not stay focused and motivated. You must think about it all the time. You must never let negative thinking or negative people cause you to let go of your purpose.

A lot of times, friends and family member, who mean well, cause us a lot of damage by telling us that our dreams or desires are too big and we will never achieve them. That is false information. They tell us this because they feel that if we desire something and do not receive it, we will be disappointed and let down. But life will have its trials and tribulations. They are our learning experiences. They are what we grow from. They are what draw us closer to God.

To stay motivated, constantly call upon God. Draw nearer to Him by including Him in on your every decision; your every move. Ask what you should do next, and listen for the answer. It will come to you. Find some quiet time and be alone with God. Use the time when you are driving in your car, or when, excuse me if this sounds gross, but when you are in the bathroom. These are moments when you are alone with yourself, your thoughts and with God.

Take advantage of this time. Talk with God. Talk with yourself.

Reconfirm with yourself that you can do all things through Christ that strengthens you.

Use the same strategy Keshia applied, and in no time, you too will be living the life God intended for you to live.

Life is a promise; fulfill it. -- Mother Theresa

Read to Learn

One thing that always amazes me is that people do not read. I cannot understand that thought process. How can you NOT like to read? How do you learn if you don't read? How do you grow if you don't read? How do you know what is going on around you if you don't read? You cannot live if you do not read. You will never grow any further than where you are now if you do not read.

However, when you do read, especially if you read self-help books, it is always a good practice to take notes. Put the notes into your own words.

Each book, each article, each newsletter that you read is simply someone else's opinion on a matter. This book here is my opinion on a matter. Although it is meant to help you discover God's purpose for your life, unless you take out the parts that mean something to you, write them down in your own words so that they have meaning to you, this book is simply something you are doing to pass the time.

The words have to have meaning. They must call you to action. You must decide to make changes and actively pursue those changes every day, all day.

You must feel that you are under pressure to discover your life's purpose and start living it. You have to want it so badly that you can taste it.

Each day read for at least one hour. Read something pertaining to our field of interest. Or read something that will help you grow in some way—whether you are growing your business or growing your mind.

I highly recommend that you read Napoleon Hills, "Think and Grow Rich." You can find it in any bookstore or order it off of the web. Another interesting book is "As a Man Thinketh" and its offered absolutely free on the Internet. "The Science of Getting Rich" is also highly recommended reading. All three books are available at this link <http://www.mp3motivators.com/cgi-bin/a.pl?motivate&1745>.

An age is called Dark, not because the light fails to shine, but because people refuse to see it. -- Michener, James

Now that I Discovered My Passion (or Purpose) What Do I Do Next?

After you discover your life's purpose, it is wise to learn everything you can about your subject.

Let's say after doing a soul search to discover your life's purpose, you realize you enjoy planning events. Next, you will have to research event planning.

The Internet gives us access to loads of information, right at our fingertips. Do a search on planning events (or whatever your subject may be). You will be amazed at all the information available pertaining to your field of interest.

Read everything you can. Find out what magazines are written about your subject.

Find organizations and associations.

Join chat room regarding your field of interest.

There is nothing but information available for you.

Visit your local library or bookstore. You will be amazed at all the books that are written regarding your field of interest. Pick one up, read it. There are probably audio tapes available on your subject also so if your complaint is you have no time to read, throw a tape in the car and listen on your way to work.

Volunteering

Volunteering is a great way to gain experience. In addition to the experience you can gain by volunteering, you will also have a sense of self worth and pride. You know that good feeling you get when you have helped others less fortunate than yourself? You will have that feeling every day you volunteer.

Why not find a non-profit organization that has the same interest as your life's purpose, and volunteer for their next event. Or, if you want to really be creative, why not think of your very own fundraiser and approach the non-profit organization that has the same interest as your passions and run your idea by them.

If you are not sure where your services may be needed, or if you do not know of any non-profit organization that has the same interest as you, go to any search engine on the web and do a search for nonprofit organizations or volunteering. Thousands of sites will appear.

Why not pick one that coincides with your life's purpose and not only help yourself, but help others as well.

Everyone can be great, because everyone can serve. – Martin Luther King

Courage

Courage is very important when we decide to discover our life's purpose.

Most people are in jobs that they are afraid to leave because they think about the "what ifs".

What if I decide to follow my heart and do what I know I was meant to do; and it takes too long to start getting money?

What if I don't have the money to pay my mortgage or my rent?

What if I can't afford benefits for my family?

What if I leave my present job to pursue my dream and I fail?

These are all legitimate questions to ask yourself. However, it shouldn't be reasons for you NOT to pursue your purpose in life. You can pursue your purpose and continue to work your regular nine-to-five job.

What will happen is--the more you get into your purpose and discover the many ways you can it to service others, you will eventually have a driving need that will force you to pursue your purpose AND it will create more money than you could have possibly imagined.

Muster up the courage today! Don't wait any longer to start living your life's purpose.

Deuteronomy 33:11--Bless all his skills, O Lord, and be pleased with the work of his hands.

Trust Jesus

One day everything appeared to be going wrong. The weight of the world seemed to have decided to settle on my shoulders that day.

Bill collectors were calling and asking for payments that I didn't have.

The car insurance was due you know the large payment that comes when the cycle starts over again and I simply did not have it.

My cable had gone out on Wednesday, and I love my Law & Order, but I had to miss it because regular television doesn't work without cable in my area.

The final straw came when the Student Loan people called and demanded I send them a payment. It was one of those moments you see in the commercial when the woman says, Calgon, take me away.

I started talking to God and asking him what was happening? Why was everything coming down on me at that particular time? What was the message He wanted me to learn?

But, for some odd reason, I wasn't getting any answers from Him.

The following morning, things didn't get any better.

As I was making myself breakfast, I dropped and broke my favorite drinking glass.

My head was filled with so much activity it was hard for me to concentrate on one thing.

As I was driving into work that morning, I was feeling extremely stressed. But then the strangest thing happened.

While I was driving into work, I was talking to God, as I so often do when I'm alone in the car.

I was asking Him again about the lesson I was suppose to learn from all of this chaos happening around me.

Just when I was saying, "God, why aren't you answering me? Tell me what I should do." At that very moment-this is the honest truth-at that very moment, I saw a sign. A real sign. A sign nailed on a tree. That sign said, in bright orange letters, **TRUST JESUS.**

Now, I must tell you that I have driven down this same highway for at least 4 years going to work five days a week and I never noticed that sign.

Personally, I don't believe it was there before that day. I refuse to believe it was there before that day and I somehow never notice it. It was a 2" by 2" square wooden plaid with orange writing that read, **TRUST JESUS.**

It didn't look as if someone had actually written it. It looked as if someone had the sign professionally made and then took a really big nail and hung it on a tree on the side of the highway.

At that very moment, all of the stress that I was feeling disappeared.

The reason I was stressing so much is I had forgotten to trust Jesus.

I'm sure you are familiar with those feelings--the feeling of stressing yourself out because you forgot to trust Jesus.

You know you want to take that leap and find a job or career that will fit God's purpose for your life. But you are afraid to make the first step.

You have a job you are not suited for, but it pays your bills and offers you and your family, medical benefits that you need.

But you are not happy. Fear is holding you back from following your dreams and desires.

Someone once said that FEAR = False Evidence Appearing Real.

This is so true.

The bible tells us in 2 Timothy 1:7 "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

When we allow fear, which is not from God, to take control of us, we start to stress.

But, God did not give us the spirit of fear. Therefore, FEAR is false.

Whenever you feel fear starting to creep in, remember to TRUST JESUS.

Trust that He has a purpose for your life and that if you are not happy with what you are presently doing, than you aren't following HIS purpose.

Trust that making changes will be difficult and at times, frustrating, but always be mindful that you will be doing God's work.

Trust that everyone will not see the vision you see, but be mindful that

God has a calling for you and you must fulfill that calling.

Here's an action point: Write both FEAR = False Evidence Appearing Real and 2 Timothy 1:7 on two different pieces of paper.

Then on another piece of paper, write in big orange letters, the words TRUST JESUS.

Post these saying somewhere you will see it everyday.

Post it on the headboard of your bed; next to the mirror in the bathroom; on the visor of your car; on your desk at work.

Read these every day, several times a day--anytime you feel fear of stress coming down on you, take it out and read it.

If you do it often enough, you will learn to always TRUST JESUS and fear and stress will not exist in your life.

Then there would be nothing that holds you back from discovering God's purpose for your life.

For the work of a man shall he render unto him, and cause every man to find according to his ways.-- Job 34:11

Setting Goals

Having a life and waking up each day is a privilege, not a right. Are you taking full advantage of your every waking hour?

If you are like most people, the answer is no.

Have you ever got up early in the morning, and by 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. you realized that you have accomplished nothing?

If you are like the average person, this happens more than you care to admit.

A great way to prevent wasting your day is to set goals for yourself.

Buy yourself an organizer. If you can't afford an organizer or if you don't want to buy one, get a notepad.

Think of everything you wish to accomplish for the week. Write them down. These are your weekly goals.

Break down your weekly goals into daily goals.

Set a time limit for what you have to do and write it down. If you organize your day so that you have set time to accomplish a goal, little by little you accomplish a lot.

Write down what you hope to accomplish that day.

Then think about what you want to accomplish for the week, for the month, for the next three months, for the year.

If you get in the habit of writing out your goals and breaking them down into smaller and smaller increments you would be surprised how much you can get accomplished.

Here's an example.

By the end of the week, I would like to make twenty new contacts; have four informational interviews set up; have ten career leads; spend quality time with my family each day; lose 2 lbs; finish two chapters of my ebook.

Monday

6:00 a.m. Wake up. Drink 2 glasses of water.
6:30 a.m. Exercise
7:00 a.m. Exercise
7:30 a.m. Finish exercising; bath; get ready for day
8:00 a.m. Eat two egg whites on whole wheat, drink 2 glasses of water
8:30 a.m. Leave for the office
9:00 a.m. Arrive at the office – check emails
9:30 a.m. Make calls for the next hour to promote my business
10:00 a.m. “; Eat an apple; drink 2 glasses of water
10:30 a.m. “
11:00 a.m. Write a few sections for ebook
11:30 a.m. “
12:00 p.m. Eat turkey sandwich on whole wheat; drink two glasses of water
12:30 p.m. “
1:00 p.m. Make calls to set up informational interviews
1:30 p.m. “
2:00 p.m. Research career; eat ½ cup of grapes; drink 2 glasses of water
2:30 p.m. “
3:00 p.m. Visit discussion boards pertaining to my field of interest
3:30 p.m. “
4:00 p.m. Write an article
4:30 p.m. Finish up all loose ends; eat ½ raisins; drink 2 glasses of water
5:00 p.m. Leave the office; drive home; listen to inspirational station/tapes
5:30 p.m. Pick children up from day care; arrive home
6:00 p.m. Cook dinner
6:30 p.m. Feed family
7:00 p.m. Spend uninterrupted time with children
7:30 p.m. Bathe children;
8:00 p.m. Read bed time story to children; put them to bed
8:30 p.m. Clean kitchen
9:00 p.m. Spend uninterrupted time with husband
9:30 p.m. “

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10:00 p.m. "; watch news
10:30 p.m. Watch news
11:00 p.m. Take shower; go to bed

If I follow this routine each day or a routine similar, by the end of the week I will make twenty new contacts; have four informational interviews set up; have ten career leads; have spent quality time with my family each day; lost at least 2 lbs. and finish two chapters of my ebook.

I would have accomplished all that I have set up to accomplish. See how it works?

A great habit to get into is each night before you go to bed is to say your prayers. Ask God to let you know what He wants you to accomplish the next day.

Sit and listen for an answer. It will come to you. Write it down. Break it down into intervals that will work best for you.

After you finish your list of "To Dos" pray on it. Pray that God allows you to accomplish all that He has set out for you to accomplish the next day.

You will be happily surprised how much you will accomplish.

If you get in the habit of doing this, you will find that in no time at all you are able to accomplish anything you set out to do.

You can be and do anything that you want. With God, all things are possible. So, long as you keep God present at all times, you will be able to do ANYTHING.

***If you think you are beaten, you are
If you think you dare not, you don't
If you like to win, but you think you can't,
It is almost certain you won't
If you think you'll lose, you're lost,
For out of the world we find
Success begins with a fellow's will—
It's all in the state of mind
If you think you are outclassed, you are,
You've got to think high to rise,
You've got to be sure of yourself before
You can ever win a prize
Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger or faster man;
But soon or late the man who wins
Is the man WHO THINKS HE CAN***

Web Sites and Other Information

Listed below are a few sites that will also be helpful in your quest to discover your life's purpose and incorporate it into a career.

Bureau of Labor Statistics--Check this site out. I think it's a great place to start researching your field of interest. The Bureau of Labor Statistics is an agency within the U.S. Department of Labor. According to their web site they are a principal fact-finding agency for the Federal Government in the broad field of labor economics and statistics. There is a lot of interesting information on this site. It lists wages by area and occupation; earnings by industry; employee benefits, state and county wages--a lot of information that you may find interesting that will help you in your search to incorporate your purpose into a career. Visit their site at <http://www.bls.gov>.

The Occupational Outlook Handbook--This web site is awesome in the amount of information they provide pertaining to different occupations. If you aren't sure what type of career will allow you to live your life's purpose, you may get a lot of interesting information from this site. Linked from the Bureau of Labor Statistics web site this powerful tool will help you thoroughly research your field of interest. It's The Occupational Outlook Handbook, which is a nationally recognized source of career information, designed to provide valuable assistance to individuals making decisions about their future work lives. Revised every two years, the Handbook describes what workers do on the job, working conditions, the training and education needs, earnings, and expected job prospects in a wide range of occupations. Visit this site at <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>.

Occupational Information Network Resource Center (O*NET)--The Occupational Information Network database takes the place of the Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT) as the nation's primary source of occupational information. The O*NET database and related products helps millions of employers, workers, educators, and training career choices. The O*NET Project is administered and sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment training. <http://www.onetcenter.org/>.



About the Author

Dawn Fields is a motivational speaker and trainer who will teach you how to discover God's purpose for your life and how to incorporate that purpose into a career. God has given you a purpose in life; a talent that you possess which most others do not. Your purpose (or God given talent) is something you are passionate about and once you discover this passion, the sky is the limit as to where you can go with it.

Many people who graduate from high school and college are never taught the skills required to go after their dreams and desires or to discover what it is they should actually be going after in the first place--their life's purpose. If we are taught the skills required to go after our dreams and realize how achievable our dreams really are, I feel, society will be a much better place to live, and we will be more productive citizens. Our dreams are God's way of showing us our life's purpose.

After giving birth to her first child, Dawn realized how the things we do leave lasting and sometimes damaging impressions on our children, if the images are not positive ones. She realized that having her daughter watch her hit the snooze button on the alarm clock each morning and making quite a fuss about getting out of bed to go to a job she didn't like, was not the positive image she wanted her daughter to developed regarding work and work habits. Dawn decided to do a soul search and find a career that would be more suitable for her personality and lifestyle; something that would make her jump out of bed each morning, eager to face the challenges and blessing the new day would undoubtedly bring. That is when she discovered her life's purpose.

During a one-year family leave in which she took to stay home and take care of her newborn child, she discovered herself and her life's purpose. As long as Dawn could remember, she had helped others find challenging, and enjoyable careers, even though she remained at a job that never challenged her and oftentimes became quite frustrating. In the course of her soulsearching, she discovered a step-by-step process that will allow her to yrain others on how to discover their purpose in life and live life to it's fullest.

Dawn Fields
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How to Discover Your Life's Purpose
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Targeting church and youth organizations and teaching them to discover their life's purpose is ' life's purpose. What she wants more than anything is for every single person to wake up each morning, before the alarm clock goes off, and to jump out of bed eager to face the new day, with a purpose and a goal that will empower you, and aspire you to be all that you can be.

Dawn feels that if she can accomplish this, she will not only live her life's purpose, but also make the world a better in the process. For workshop, seminar and speech information, send an email to dawn@dawnfields.com. Visit the web site at www.dawnfields.com and sign up for her FREE weekly newsletter by sending a blank email to yourlifepurposesubscribe@topica.com. Tune into her weekly radio show at <http://www.dawnfields.com/radioshow.htm> Airs Thursday nights at 9 p.m. EST.