GLARITY Let There Be Light!



"The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light." Genesis 1:2-3

We all have questions about life that give us reason to pause. Questions such as, "what do I do now?", "what do I do next?", "where do I go from here?", "how do I grow my business/career?", "who do I marry?" and much more. What stops us from moving forward beyond the questions is a lack of clarity- not knowing what to do. And not knowing can keep us in a state of darkness, confusion and paralysis, not being able to move forward.

There was a point where the earth was in a similar state: formless, empty and dark. Even though the Holy Spirit was present, things only began to change when God called forth light. Once light came, the remaining processes of creation followed smoothly and in order. This tells us how critical clarity (light) is.

This series we're looking at clarity - what it looks like, how it comes and how to consistently walk in it so we're never paralysed by confusion. We pray the Holy Spirit brings illumination and speaks to your specific circumstances as we go through this series.

Day 1 Purpose

"We have become his poetry, a re-created people that will fulfill the destiny he has given each of us, for we are joined to Jesus, the Anointed One. Even before we were born, God planned in advance our destiny and the good works we would do to fulfill it!" Ephesians 2:10 TPT

Purpose is often defined as the reason something exists and from the Bible we know that God's purpose for each of us predates our birth. He created a detailed masterplan for each of us before we were born and the plan includes the part we're to play on a seasonal basis. Thus the first step to knowing purpose is revelation of the fact that God already has a picture in mind for us.

"So we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you complete knowledge of his will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better." Colossians 1:9-10

There's a saying that if you don't know where you're going, any road will take you there. This shouldn't apply to believers as God has carefully orchestrated our lives such that there's a specific purpose for every season which is meant to feed into the next season as we continually fulfil purpose. However this can only happen in partnership with Him as He reveals purpose for the season to us. When we don't know what season we're in, the chances of making a wrong move are very high, even if it may not look wrong in the natural. In fact decisions made outside of God often tend to look good at the time, but will take us out of His will and our purpose. And once this happens, it impacts everything about our ability maximise we've destiny and to what been designed for.

Prayer: Lord I know You have the blueprint for my life. I ask that You give me complete knowledge of Your will for this season. Give me the wisdom and understanding I need to walk in Your will so I don't make a wrong turn. Help me fulfil the plan You created me for.

Day 2

Times & Seasons

"For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1

One of the ways clarity comes is through the knowledge of what we should be doing per time. God has a detailed masterplan for our lives which is broken down into times and seasons. Time speaks to a specific period while a season speaks to a range of time periods. For instance, when it comes to weather there are 4 major seasons which are made up of different periods of time. Similarly, our lives are made up of various seasons during which there are specific things we ought to be doing. When we have clarity on our times and seasons, we're better able to pinpoint our appropriate response.

"... All these men understood the signs of the times and knew the best course for Israel to take." 1 Chronicles 12:32

"red sky in the morning means foul weather all day.' You know how to interpret the weather signs in the sky, but you don't know how to interpret the signs of the times!" Matthew 16:3

Every season has signs indicating what should be done with time. This applies to all areas of our lives, careers, businesses, accomplishments etc. which means if we miss the signs it's possible to miss a season and we could end up doing the the right thing at the wrong time. A question we're probably asking ourselves then is, "How do I know what I should be doing at this time?"

'... He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.' Isaiah 50:4

The Bible tells us that God gives us instructions every morning in line with the assignment for the day. Which means our morning prayer focus shouldn't just be for God to bless our plans but to ask Him what His plans for us are and for the grace to align accordingly. As this prayer becomes a daily practice and we yield to the Holy Spirit's promptings, our spiritual ears become sharpened and we grow in discernment of what we should be doing per time.

Prayer: Lord make me sensitive to the signs of the times of my life. Open my ears to hear Your instructions and help me constantly discern the season I'm in and respond accurately.

Day 3 Choosing a Life Partner

"But Jesus said, "Not everyone is mature enough to live a married life. It requires a certain aptitude and grace. Marriage isn't for everyone. Some, from birth seemingly, never give marriage a thought. Others never get asked—or accepted. And some decide not to get married for kingdom reasons. But if you're capable of growing into the largeness of marriage, do it." Matthew 19:11-12 MSG

Marriage is both an institution and a mystery created by God. An institution with requirements, guidelines, etc through which He partners two people together for the purpose of driving His agenda, and a mystery because in this partnership two people become one in His eyes (Gen 2:24). Not everyone wants to get married, preferring to live a life of celibacy. Those who do want to marry need clarity to understand why they want to marry because it's not about self. Popular media often focuses on what can be taken from a potential marriage partner, while from God's perspective marriage isn't just about the physical union, but spiritual partnership and fulfilment of destiny.

"Then the Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him."" Genesis 2:18

"Search from the book of the Lord, and read: Not one of these shall fail; Not one shall lack her mate. For My mouth has commanded it, and His Spirit has gathered them." Isaiah 34:16

Anyone can get married, but not every marriage fulfils God's purpose. For purpose to be fulfilled there must be alignment with God's kingdom agenda and His specific agenda for the lives of both parties. We see from the scriptures above that God is very intentional about the right partnerships because the married couple is meant to grow together through the seasons of life and the opportunities and challenges they will bring. It doesn't mean they will be perfect, but keeping Jesus centre of their decision making, He gives grace to keep going and growing.

Prayer: Lord give me a revelation of the purpose of marriage from Your perspective. Your word says there's is a partner that is just right for me and Your assignment for my life. I ask that You connect and reveal him/her to me and vice versa. Remove any biases we may have formed and help us see each other through the eyes of the Spirit.

Day 4

Career Decisions

"You have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you and I have appointed and placed and purposefully planted you, so that you would go and bear fruit and keep on bearing, and that your fruit will remain and be lasting, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name [as My representative] He may give to you." John 15:16 AMP

We shared earlier this series that God has a masterplan for our lives which details what we're to do in all aspects including our careers. Most of us will spend the better part of our lives growing and establishing our careers, as such it stands to reason that God is interested in what we spend such a significant chunk of our lives doing. To the extent that Jesus not only chose us, He's pre-appointed us to take up roles in the marketplace, designated companies we're to work in or establish, where we will be productive in our careers and also spiritually fruitful as His representatives.

"Yes, he will build the Temple of the Lord. Then he will receive royal honor and will rule as king from his throne. He will also serve as priest from his throne, and there will be perfect harmony between his two roles." Zechariah 6:13

There shouldn't be any conflict between our walk with God and our chosen career path. Alignment with God doesn't mean things will always be easy as challenges are part of the journey, but it does mean every step in our career will be aligned with purpose. The world constantly puts us under pressure to make decisions outside of God, but based on societal norms or how we feel at the time. This is why the Bible says we shouldn't depend only on our own understanding because we can only see aspects of the present, but God sees from the end to the beginning.

"The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you." Psalms 32:8

What appears to be an unattractive opportunity right now could be the same platform God uses to exult a person based on who he/she meets there. Remember it was in prison that Joseph met pharaoh's butler. It doesn't mean every opportunity that looks good isn't from God or vice versa. What God is asking of us is to let Him direct our career decisions, not just in getting a job but also navigating our career paths so we remain fruitful while being appropriately rewarded for our work.

Prayer: Lord, lead me along the best pathway of my career so I am productive and fruitful as a king and priest. Where I've made wrong choices Lord, please realign me and navigate me to where I should be and what I should be doing. Position me as a light in the marketplace and let my career showcase Your glory

Day 5 Business Strategies

"Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, The Holy One of Israel: "I am the Lord your God, Who teaches you to profit, Who leads you by the way you should go." Isaiah 48:17

Serious minded players in the business world are always looking for the best way to run their enterprise, making decisions that they hope will maximise their business profitability and deliver on their goals. But things don't always work out as expected for a number of reasons and the strategy that seemed right at a point no longer aligns with current market realities. Consequently most business owners are wondering how to stay afloat in the times we're in with increasing macroeconomic fluctuations nationally and globally. God sheds light on how to navigate this by teaching us how to profit.

"And I will give you treasures hidden in the darkness— secret riches. I will do this so you may know that I am the Lord, the God of Israel, the one who calls you by name." Isaiah 45:3

"There is a path before each person that seems right, but it ends in death." Proverbs 14:12

Many of our business decisions come from our experience, market outlooks and expectations of what we believe our product/service will deliver. With the way the world is fast evolving, it's possible to be wrong on all fronts because we haven't prepared for tomorrow's realities which may not exist today. And if we're not sufficiently prepared decisions to pivot, invest, enhance, divest etc will come too late. But God is the owner of the earth and He knows the trends of tomorrow that businesses can prepare for today so that changes in the marketplace will favour you. He knows the innovations to start investing in today and the things to shut down. He can give visibility to your business that no marketing strategy can conceive. Let's partner with God in our business endeavours so we move by His inspiration

Prayer: Lord, please teach me to profit in my business, lead me in the way I should go. Open my eyes to where treasures are hidden, the secret riches available to me. Give me the strategy for my business to consistently be relevant and the grace for my business to be an outpost for the expansion of Your kingdom.

Day 6 Choosing Collaborations

"I planted the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. It's not important who does the planting, or who does the watering. What's important is that God makes the seed grow." 1 Corinthians 3:6-7

It's impossible to do everything that needs to be done by ourselves alone. There's only so much we know and an extent to how far we can go or number of places we can be. For us to make lasting impact in any area, we need to partner or collaborate with others. As believers we must be aware that when we partner with people in business, projects, etc we're connecting not only to their physical skills, but also to their character and the spirit they carry. So collaboration must always start from the place of discernment. How then do we know who to partner with and what the collaboration should look like?

The first step is to start with the end in mind: what do you want to achieve? Paul planted the seed, but he needed someone to water it which Apollos demonstrated capacity for. Choosing partnerships should not be on the basis of sentiment but identifying the grace (skills, capacity, etc) that you carry and what is needed in the potential partner(s) that will complement yours and lead to achieving the desired objective.

"Can two people walk together without agreeing on the direction?" Amos 3:3

"How wonderful and pleasant it is when brothers live together in harmony!" Psalms 133:1

Beyond identifying the grace someone carries, we need the Lord's intervention for mutually aligned connections and people who can work in harmony with us. It can be frustrating partnering with someone who is working for a different agenda, lacks the requisite skills, or is skilled but the person's character rubs you and everyone else off the wrong way.

Prayer: Lord open my eyes and give me clarity to discern who to partner with in (mention the area). Connect me with fruitful and harmonious collaborations so the desired objectives will be met. Let my partnerships be pleasing to You and yield results that will give You glory.

Day 7 Loving God

"My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts," says the Lord. "And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so my ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:8-9

God's ways are nothing like the ways of man. So for us to be successful in walking with Him, we must understand His ways, what matters to Him and how to do what matters. For instance when we say we love God what does that mean from His perspective?

"If you love me, obey my commandments." John 14:15

Love in this kingdom is a demonstrated action not an emotion and we demonstrate our love for God through obedience to His instructions. If we choose not to obey His instructions then from God's perspective we don't love Him. It doesn't mean we'll never make mistakes, rather God can see from our hearts when we truly want to obey Him and when we don't. Remember He deals from the perspective of our hearts not just our actions. He knows those whose hearts are truly committed to Him and He provides grace through the Holy Spirit to help us walk in obedience. But it will be impossible to consistently obey God if we don't fear Him.

"The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him, And He will show them His covenant." Psalms 25:14

"And the Spirit of the Lord will rest on him— the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord." Isaiah 11:2

"asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God." Ephesians 1:17

This isn't fear of punishment and judgement, but based on a revelation of and awe for God's power and authority. When the spirit of the fear of God is operational we receive the help of the Holy Spirit to reverence and respect Him and consequently obedience will be the result. There are too many benefits to obeying God, few of which include an assurance of protection, preservation, promotion. But more importantly we become people that He can trust and confide in.

Prayer: Holy Spirit please give me a deep revelation of the Lord so I can grow in my knowledge of Him. Help me grow in obedience and intimacy with the Lord. Lord help me become a person that can be trusted with the things that matter to

Day 8

The Higher Power

'I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate.' Romans 7:15

Our natural desires don't disappear when we give our lives to Jesus. This is because the transformation journey of a believer is a marathon not a sprint with many obstacles on the way positioned by the enemy and our natural self which can slow down or derail us.

'For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will.' Romans 8:7

We all have things we're dealing with on our journey to becoming like Jesus that we are trying to stop doing and other things we are trying to start. But have you noticed that the more you say you won't do something, the more you want to do it and vice versa? For instance, the day set aside for fasting is when hunger seems to start from when you wake up though you may ordinarily do without food all day. Or the day you decide you'll be patient everything that can push your buttons happens. All these point us to the fact that we can't make the changes needed through willpower alone – there must be a higher power involved.

'Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord. So you see how it is: In my mind I really want to obey God's law, but because of my sinful nature I am a slave to sin.' Romans 7:25

'So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves.' Galatians 5:16

On our own we will struggle to live in a way that pleases God, but when we shift our focus from depending on ourselves to depending on the Holy Spirit daily, He supplies the grace we need to overcome the pull of our natural desires. The same way the law of aerodynamics is higher than the law of gravity, the power of the Holy Spirit is higher than the pull of sinful nature. Let's lean into His grace today.

Prayer: Holy Spirit I need Your help today, please guide and give me the grace to live according to Your strength and not mine.

Thanks for completing the study. We'll love to hear from you, so please connect with us on:

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