

## **THE PATHWAY TO GREATNESS.**

### **What is greatness;**

Greatness is the desire to live a life that makes a difference in the lives of others.

Greatness is living your God given assignment with a great level of excellence while touching people's lives through service.

Greatness is not the accumulation of money or toys or accolades but is the fulfilling of your God given assignment in life while at the same time impacting and changing people's lives through service.

The journey to greatness begins with a CHOICE.

Making a choice to start the journey is the difference between failure and success.

Where you are today is not cast in stone – you can change, you can grow, you can attain your greatness.

Greatness begins when you decide to be better today than you were yesterday.

**Jesus taught us if any man desires to be first the same shall be least of all and servant of all. - MARK 9:35**

I believe that greatness is a result of living a life on a mission, maximizing your potential and lifting people up as you grow through life.

### **Key number one – the key of PURPOSE.**

There are two great days in a person's life.

- 1. The day we are born and**
- 2. The day we discover why.**

Purpose is the identification of our reason for being.

Purpose is the understanding of what special assignment we were created to undertake.

Purpose is the location of our pre-ordained duty to justify our existence.

Purpose comes from the understanding that we are not on earth by coincidence or accident but BY DIVINE DESIGN.

When you know and pursue your Purpose it releases your passion and maximizes your potential.

God created each one of us to fulfil a certain assignment that answers people's questions and gives them solutions to their problems.

Your assignment in life is unique to you and you are well equipped and divinely endowed to fulfil it.

If you do not discover your purpose you will live a life of divided focus and wasted energies.

It is the manufacturer of a product that understands the Purpose of the product – asking God who made you why He made you is the beginning of the journey to know your purpose.

The best way to discover your purpose is to look at what you are good at and what you enjoy doing.

Your gifts, talents and strengths are accurate pointers towards your purpose.

Three things that are important in discovery of Purpose;

- 1. Self evaluation.**
- 2. Self acceptance.**
- 3. Self development.**

There is a God in heaven who crafted you and made you.

The unfolding of God's plan for your life is the beginning of a great future – you can never become a star until you operate within your purpose.

God is a God of purpose – every manufacturer begins to put together a product with a purpose in mind.

Locating your purpose is the first key in your pursuit to greatness.

**How do you discover your purpose? Ask yourself the following questions.**

1. What do you love doing the most.
2. What gives you the greatest satisfaction and joy as you do it
3. What unique talents and giftings and competencies has God given you.
4. What are you willing to do any time even without pay.
5. What problem really bothers you the most – many times this could be an indicator of a problem God has called you to solve.
6. What do people mostly compliment you for.
7. In what area are you most productive and fruitful in.

Martin Luther King Junior was a Civil Right movement leader in the USA who was shot dead at the tender age of 39 years but he lived such a life of Purpose and impact that left an enduring legacy.

Martin Luther King Junior said “If a man has not discovered something that he will die for he is not fit to live.” He continues to say “If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as Michel Angelo painted or Beethoven composed music or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep the streets so well that all the host of heaven and earth pause and say “here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well.”

**Key number 2 – the key of VISION.**

After you locate your purpose the next important key is the key of vision

Every man or woman who aspires for greatness must live a life driven by vision.

The Bible says in **Proverbs 29:18** – “**where there is no vision the people perish.**”

To perish means to be stripped of honour and dignity.

### **What is vision.**

Vision is divine insight into God’s plan for your life.

Vision is the ability to see into God’s programme for your life.

Vision is insight with fore-sight into what God has pre-planned for you.

Vision is the unfolding of divine programme for your life so that now you can see clearly what God wants you to achieve through your purpose.

Every child of God has a PATH to take and a road to travel – vision is the identification of that path and the locating of that road.

God gave me a vision of starting Jubilee Christian Church in October 1998 during a time of prayer and on 19<sup>th</sup> January 1999 we held our first service.

Purpose must be combined with vision.

### **What are the benefits of vision.**

1. Vision eliminates confusion and destroys ignorance.
2. Vision keeps a person focused and creates stability.
3. Vision enables the person put their energies in the one thing that God has called them to do.
4. Vision creates a pathway to maximizing your potential.
5. Vision from God when pursued will ultimately lead to a fulfilled life.
6. Vision saves time and eliminates running around like a busy body.

## 7. Vision brings a life of honour and dignity.

God wants to show you where He wants to take you so that you can live a focused and stable life.

The origin of divine vision is God and please understand that vision is not an exclusive club for few but for everyone hungry enough to ask in prayer.

### **Key number 3 – is the key of DILIGENCE.**

Once you discover your Purpose and locate your vision the next thing is DILIGENCE.

Hard work is the spice of life.

Listen to what the Bible says about diligence.

**Proverbs 22:29** declares

**<sup>29</sup>Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men.**

Listen again to **Proverbs 10:4**

**<sup>4</sup>He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.**

The Bible says that God worked for six days and then rested on the seventh.

Work is not a curse but work is a divine opportunity to maximize our potentials and display our talents and gifts.

The Bible says **2 Thessalonians 3:10** “**If anyone will not work neither should he eat.**”

You cannot compensate work with prayer – there is a place for prayer but there is also a place for intensive hard work.

Doing nothing will produce exactly that NOTHING.

Work appears 500 times in the Bible.

Striving for success without hard work is like trying to harvest where you have not planted.

What you believe does not amount to much unless it causes you to climb out of the spectator's box and get on with work.

Touch three people and tell them work baby work.

**Proverbs 24:33-34 says “a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest so shall poverty come like a prowler and your need like an armed man.”**

In fact somebody said “laziness travels so slowly, poverty soon overtakes it.”

It is always a trying time for the person who is always trying to get something for nothing.

Work is a blessing from God because it allows us to express our gifts, talents, abilities and capacity.

Wishing never made a poor man wealthy.

There are people who do things and there are those who are experts on how things should be done – I would rather be part of those who do things.

**Proverbs 6:6-11 (NIV)**

**<sup>6</sup> Go to the ant, you sluggard;  
consider its ways and be wise!**

**<sup>7</sup> It has no commander,**

no overseer or ruler,  
<sup>8</sup> yet it stores its provisions in summer  
and gathers its food at harvest.  
<sup>9</sup> How long will you lie there, you sluggard?  
When will you get up from your sleep?  
<sup>10</sup> A little sleep, a little slumber,  
a little folding of the hands to rest—  
<sup>11</sup> and poverty will come on you like a thief  
and scarcity like an armed man.

### The wisdom of the ant.

#### **1. It has no commander, no overseer, no ruler.**

It doesn't require supervision to do its work.

It is disciplined enough to know what to do and when to do it.

If you still need supervision to work you are STILL A BABY.

If you still need someone to wake you up, tell you what to do and when to do it – you are not wise.

Don't be a sukuma twende.

It talks of personal creativity and innovation.

How can you be a candidate of running from your office before time and lazily walking back at 2.30 instead of 2 o'clock – be self-driven, self-motivated, self-disciplined.

#### **2. That its diligence covers up for lack of strength.**

Wisdom is better than strength and a man of knowledge increases strength.

#### **3. It stores up in summer.**

That means it has the capacity to plan ahead – so it sees the future and plans for the future. Many believers live for now with no fore-thought or fore-sight for the future.

Start to plan for your future now – start saving up for your wedding – don't wait until you are getting married that is when you are running helter-skelter – not just the men even you ladies.

**4. It works hard in summer – summer is a difficult time to labour because it is very hot.**

They work in the heat instead of waiting for the opportune time.

Don't complain about the economy – work now – delayed gratification.

**Ecclesiastes 11:4 - <sup>4</sup>He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.**

Don't be a murmurer – work.

**5. Gathers her food in harvest – this is an important lesson – it has the patience to wait until the harvest is ready.**

It doesn't run before its time but waits until harvest time to gather her food.

If it didn't wait until harvest it would gather food that is not ready.

If it missed out on harvest, the harvest would be over ripe and rotten.

It has a sense of TIMING.