

Living With Purpose and Power - Week 4

“Overcoming Roadblocks to Destiny Fulfillment”



Isaiah 57:14

“Build up, build up, prepare the road! Remove the obstacles out of the way of my people.”

Proverbs 22:3 (paraphrase)

“A prudent man foresees evil and hides himself; but the simple pass on and are punished”.

(In essence, there is a price to pay for not addressing those things that could later present themselves as obstacles”)

Living With Purpose and Power – Week 4

“Overcoming Roadblocks to Destiny Fulfillment”

***Destiny:** the sovereign **purpose** for which you have been created, that when fulfilled, brings God the greatest glory, brings you the greatest joy, and most significantly, advances the Kingdom of God here on earth.*

Today we hope to help you recognize and identify the roadblocks and obstacles on the path to your destiny.

- If you'll cooperate with God, He will work with you to break through these barriers to Destiny Fulfillment.
- The obstacles that most likely first come to mind are tangible, external things like time, health issues, family commitments, and money.
- But the obstacles that truly hold us back are the ones **we place on ourselves**; it's self-sabotage of the highest order.
- When these internal, self-imposed obstacles are cleared away, we become willing to break through any of the external things that hold us back.

Destiny Fulfillment - The Opposition and the Answers

- **The tendency people have when opposition comes is to back away from the mission**
- Don't be surprised by opposition -- Expect it! Otherwise you'll likely hit the holding pattern – a zone where you are somewhere between stalled and complete derailment.

Book of Nehemiah – Building the Wall

There is a cycle of advance and setback through chapters 3-6.

- **There will always be opposition.**

- The enemy will try to get you sidetracked or to give up completely.
- Even though it was God's will for the wall to be rebuilt, **He did not remove the opposition.**
- Even though it is God's will for you to grow strong in faith and to labor to advance His kingdom, **God does not remove the opposition.**
- **If you respond properly, the opposition will drive you to greater dependence on the Lord** and to greater determination to do what He has called you to do.
- **If you yield to the opposition, you will quit the race in discouragement or settle in for a mediocre Christian existence.**

- 1) **Distraction** -Forgetting what we're really called to do
- 2) **Discouragement**- tired, over-worked, or stressed. King David "encouraged himself in the Lord."
- 3) **Doubt** - The enemy uses doubt as a powerful weapon against us. He used it in the Garden of Eden and he still uses it today.
- 4) **Deception** - Truth is paramount to a Christ-follower. The truth of the gospel, the truth of the Word of God, and the truth of my calling and purpose need to be prioritized in my life.
- 5) **Accusation** - Satan would like to keep us powerless because of 'skeletons' in our closet.
Do not allow the past to overshadow the future. If there are things that were a problem or issue in the past, allow them to remain where they are --- in the past.

The Tongue

"We all have room to grow in our relationship with God." The more we grow, the more we will recognize our need to grow. It is part of the journey.

Words are powerful, they can build up, and words can tear down; they can embolden a timid spirit, or snuff out a flickering flame.

Intentionally, use your words to label the positive, affirming gifts and talents in others. Doing so just might be all the encouragement, empowerment and validation that a person will need to embrace the fullness of their gifts and talents.

- Proverbs 18:21 says, “Death and life are in the power of the tongue...” And Hebrews 4:14 (AMP) says we should “hold fast our confession [of faith in Him]”
- *Confession* means “to say the same thing as. So it’s vital for us to learn how to speak the Word of God and not just say things based on our feelings or even what others have said about us.
- I believe we’ll have greater success with this if we *concentrate on what we should be saying*, rather than focusing on all the things we shouldn’t say.
- I want to encourage you to really *listen to yourself*. Where’s your heart? **See Luke 6:45**. We need to stop saying, “Oh, I didn’t mean that. I was just kidding.” And we need to start being accountable for the words we speak.
- You can determine where your heart is by listening to yourself.

What Changing the Way You Talk Will Do

- **Bless everything** you can possibly bless. **James 3:8-10** says we have the power to bless or curse with the words of our mouth.
- **Be thankful** and say so! (**See Psalm 100:4.**) Don’t just think about how much you appreciate someone – tell them!
- **Be an encourager**. Give someone an encouraging word every day.
- **Speak the Word of God**. Recite and memorize verses that deal with things you want to change or overcome – anger, unforgiveness, insecurity...

Humility in Action

- You can defuse arguments when you are humble.
- You can handle unfair treatment peacefully when you are humble.
- You do not have to put on a "false front" when you are humble.
- You can eat "humble pie" without being crushed when you are humble.
- You can ask for forgiveness when you are humble.
- You can talk with the right attitude when you are humble.
- Being humble does not mean being a wimp
- Bible-based humility does not mean groveling.
- Bible-based humility does not mean being unaware of your gifts or calling.
- Bible-based humility does not mean we should never speak directly or forcefully.

Because there's a lack of self-absorption, humble people also have more courage to try new things. With a focus on others, there is less pressure to be perfect.

Please know that you have everything inside of you to make a difference. Nevertheless, you must keep in mind that **faith without works is dead.**

Finally, dealing with obstacles entails looking ahead. A paraphrase of Proverbs 22:3 says that a prudent man foresees evil and hides himself; but the simple pass on and are punished. In essence, there is a price to pay for not addressing those things that could later present themselves as obstacles.

Live before the Lord calls you home. There's no day of the week called "someday."

Pray. Prepare. Plan. Pursue.

Next week we will discuss **"Plans, Goals and Objectives"**