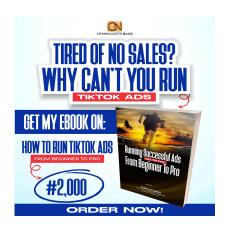
We learnt in lesson SB4 that you have a part to play in the plan of God.

#### **HOW DO I KNOW MY PART IN THE PLAN OF GOD?**

When a woman is pregnant, she begins to know by feeling different. Soon, something begins to beat within her. Then there will be slight movement. After sometime, the baby will begin to do some kicking.

By the age of 12, Jesus was already becoming aware of His purpose in life. In **Luke 2:49,** the Bible says,



"And he said unto them, how is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?"

When His parents <u>found him in the temple they asked him</u>, how come that you did not go with us? He said, why are you searching for me? That was at the age twelve. He did not begin the work until 18 years later.

Samson too before he started the real work God sent him to do, the Bible says, the spirit of God was moving him at times.

Judges 13:25, "And the spirit of the LORD began to move him at times in the camp of Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol".

All of a sudden he would feel different, something would come upon him and it was the Spirit of God.

In the same manner, there is no disciple in year five, that by now does not feel certain prompting of the Holy Spirit.

May be God is leading you in a direction slightly different from the ones you originally thought you are going.

Suddenly, you are beginning to discover that there are certain things people find difficult to do, but you find it easier to do.

Like Samson, in **Judges 14:6**, took a lion and tore it into pieces. He must have been surprised, because that was the first time he put that power that was moving him into action. He was so surprised that he didn't tell any-body.

He didn't tell his father or mother." What is this that is happening to me?" What am I able to do now?

Some of us have had similar feelings. Some things are already prompting us, we are feeling somehow, that God is saying, this is the direction I'm going' and you would not even be able to tell anyone.

When you begin to move out to witness or attend crusades, this feeling becomes stronger or may be, you start a house fellowship and certain things begin to happen and you begin to wonder: "Me! Can I do this?"

In Luke 10:17, the Bible says, "And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name".

The Bible says the 70 disciples returned with joy. They were excited. They were saying to Jesus, 'Ah, we did not know we can do it. Even devils were subject to us at your Name.'

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They were watching Jesus casting out demons, and they thought he was the only one who could do it. Our own is just to follow Him. But when they were sent out, they discovered they could do the same things.

But as he began to step out in evangelistic programmes, as he began to move from one town to another, he soon discovered what he wrote for us in Philipians 4:13.

He said, "I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me". It was not the day he was coverted that he discovered that.

It was gradual. God believes in you, not because of whom you are now but because of what you can become, and what He can do through you, by the Holy Spirit.

In II Corinthians 1:21-22, the Bible says, "Now he which established us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God; who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts".

It is God who is going to bring about the desire.

It is God who is going to do it. It is God who will do His good pleasure in us. A young man who is courting a lady knows that the lady alone cannot produce a baby but the union of both of them will produce the baby.

You alone cannot perform miracles, but when you combine with the Holy Spirit, there is nothing that can stop you.

When Mary asked the angel in **Luke 1:34-35**, "how can this thing be? How can I have a baby when I don't know a man?"

The angel answered in **Luke 1:37**, after he had told her that the Holy Spirit will overshadow her, he said, with God, nothing shall be impossible. You and the Holy Spirit, when the two of you combine, there is nothing you cannot do.

Interestingly, Mary did not tell anyone that an angel came to visit her. According to Luke

2:19, she did not tell even her husband.

When she became pregnant, the husband was thinking there must be a man who had come in with her, because Mary did not tell him.

Many of the things that God is planning for your future, He is already hinting at to you. I'm sure you have not told anyone, and it is a wise thing to keep your mouth shut.

Do not tell the enemy, so that the devil will not bring obstacles to block your way.

By the time the Lord Jesus Christ was 30 years old, He was ready, according to

Luke 4: 18-22.

By now, He knew His purpose on earth. And as Paul grew older, he knew why he was arrested on the road to Damascus, according to Philipians 3:12. By the time he was growing older, he knew why God had to choose him.

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Why are you in the world? Why are you saved? Why are you baptised in the Holy Spirit? Why has God anointed you? Why did He bring you to the School of Disciples?

God never does anything without a purpose. If you don't know the answer to this yet, it is because you have not stepped out in evangelism.

As you step out, you will discover. Whatever you are going to be in this world is already predetermined by God.

In Ephesians 1:3-5, the Bible says, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Christ: according as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will".

When were you chosen? Before the foundation of the world, God had already decided what you are going to be.

And you need to know, according to **Romans 9:15-2,1** that God is the potter and you are the clay. Before the potter begins to make any clay at all, he would have decided what kind of vessel he wants to fashion.

According to **Jeremiah 1:4-5,** God said to Jeremiah, Even before you were conceived, I had already known you. While you were in the womb, I had already sanctified you.

I have set you apart to be a prophet to nations. Brothers and sisters, before you were born, God had already concluded a plan for your life. He is the potter, you are the clay.

According to **Jeremiah 18:1-6**, some vessels would need to be abandoned because they refuse to yield to the potter. But if you read **Romans 9:1**, even the vessels that are abandoned serve a purpose. They will be examples to others.

This is what will happen if you don't yield to the potter. There are mighty men of God that God wants to use tremendously.

Halfway, they began to misbehave against the will of God. God will push them aside. But they become examples to others.

To you who are young, who are just beginning your ministry, God will say, "You see so and so? You know what happened to him? If you don't want that to happen to you, this is what you must do."

### HOW TO FULFIL THE PURPOSE OF GOD FOR YOUR LIFE

To fulfil the purpose of God for your life, you must note five things:

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- (i) The clay does not argue with the potter. Don't argue with God.
- (ii) The clay never has a say in his destiny; the clay must surrender himself so that the potter can design what he wants and fulfil it. Don't try and become what God did not plan for you to become. If the hands were to say, "What's happening? Legs are wearing shoes,
- I, too, want to be legs, I want to wear shoes." There will be trouble for the hands. Be what God wants you to be. Wherever He puts you, be there.
- (iii) Clay is most easily shaped when it is soft, flexible and malleable. You want to be what God wants you to be, you want to do it, do it. Obey Him in all

things. (John 2:5). Whatever God want you to do it

(iv) Clay has no identity or function unless the potter gives it one. The potter can decide; this particular vessel is going to be used for drinking water or for washing hands, or he may say, I just want this to be a flower pot to be placed on my table.' Whatever function the potter has designed for you, that's what you'd better do. Stop claiming for yourself titles and identities. I am a chief, High Chief,

Senior Apostle, Reverend, e.t.c. Let the potter give you an identity.

(v) Remember, clay is always clay **(Ephesians 2:8-9).** You are what you are, by the grace of God. Never forget that if you go beyond your boundaries, He will reduce you back to the dust you are. Never forget your beginning. No matter how high you go, clay is clay.

It is when the Holy Spirit combines with the clay that it will become something. If the Holy Spirit says, bye-bye to the clay, the clay will return to the clay.

#### **PRAYER**

Talk to the Almighty God and say, Father, I will be whatever you want me to be, by your special grace. Never let me lift myself against you.

#### **Action Point**

**PS:** I know you might agree with some of the points raised in this article or disagree with some of the issues raised.

Please share your thoughts on the topic discussed. We would appreciate it if you could drop your comment. Thanks in anticipation.

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