

living di
maximum life
wit power and
purpose

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introduction

god for im wisdom created one unique creation, man. Im created am for im likeness. All oda for im creations are robotic for nature by doing only as dem de created to do, no complaining and no rebelling; i. e. , without di ability to choose.

mankind na also created wit a purpose and wit logic and reasoning abilities. Dem fit decide and choose. Awa choices either aid or harm awa productivity for fulfilling awa purpose.

dem also help or injure awa ability to live a fulfilled life. Di lessons presented for di "living di maximum life wit power and purpose" are designed to assist we for reaching awa full potential.

chapter 1

wetin am i doing here?

once dia na a fellow who whenever im go to speak, wherever im go, im begin each tok by dey ask di kweshion; why u dey here? it no mata wia im go, wherever im go, im get up and say, "why u dey here?" wella one day im spoke for a mental institution. Im stood up and begin laik im always do. Im say, "why u dey here?" dia na a long pause, a fellow stood up for di back and say, "well, we're all here bicos we're no bi all dia. "

how would you ansa dat kweshion today? why u dey here and wia u dey going? oliver wendell holmes, di famous supreme court justice, na sabi for being absentminded. One taim im na on top a train, di conductor com up to am and lo and behold, im had lost im ticket. Di conductor recognized am and say to am, "now, ya honor, no you worry wey concern it. You'll find dat ticket later. Wen you do, juss mail it to we. " oliver wendell holmes looked for am and say, "my gud man, i'm no bi worried wey concern you getting ya ticket. " im say, "i need it to sabi wia i'm going. "

di gud bin dey na god knows why you're here and im knows wia you need to go. Im wan empower you to live di life. God get one very clear and distinct purpose for ya life. God does no bi mek anything without a purpose. If you de alive, im get a purpose for you. Di tragedy na

dat most pipo live dia entire life lai lai learning wetin dat purpose na, lai lai discovering dia niche and lai lai finding komot wia dem fit.

pipo tend to live komot dia live on top one for three levels for living.

1. Plodders

e remain small half for dis world are plodders. Dem be pipo whose live are robotic. Dem no realli live; dem juss exist and juss eke it komot. Dem plod through life. If you de to ask dem, wetin do you live for? dem'd tok, "the weekend" or "my two weeks vacation for august. " dem be plodders. Dem plod through life and dem miss it.

2. Pushers

e remain small di oda half for di population are pushers. Di pushers are di carrot chasers, dem be di ladder climbers and dem be di ones di world deems successful. Dis are di folks say di plodders envy bicos dem've make kudi, possessions and prestige. Go plodder, im pusher's life looks pretty gud. But di tin bi say, eventually di pusher feels di emptiness for di plodders. Bicos afta dem've earned so boku kudi, many nice cars and give dia kids evritin, dem ask themselves: why no i feel fulfilled?

it's amazing di number for books dat fill di bookstore shelves for di last couple for years dat show di emptiness for success. Here are four or five titles for some books dat don com komot: di price for success, na it worth it? or how wey concern dis, if i'm so successful, why do i feel life a aba made? and di success trap, re-thinking ya ambitions. Here's one. Di search for meaning. Make me find you one plenti, beyond success, coping wit di fast-track blues. You no even don to read dos books to sabi wetin dem be say, do you?

wetin are dem say? dem be tok say wetin dis world calls success does no bi satisfy. Why? bicos it's no bi awa purpose. God no put you on top dis earth to mek kudi. Im motto for living na no bi: "get all you fit and sidon on top ya fit. " dat's no bi god's purpose. God no mek you to climb some arbitrary ladder for success wey he do no bi build.

3. Purposeful living

only a precious few for dis old world ever realize it. It's dem dey call purposeful living. Dis are di few folks who've discovered god's plan for dia live and as dem pomp into dat purpose, dem find power, dem find make sense and dem find satisfaction. Wetin's plenti, dis are di pipo wey mek di greatest impact on top dis old world.

wen you look across history for di pipo wey've make di greatest impact on top dis world, dem be no bi di ones wey be di brightest, no bi wey dey create educated and no bi di wealthiest. No, di pipo wey don make di biggest difference for dis world, for gud or for bad, de dos wit di deepest convictions dat stem from a genuine purpose. Weda na im lincoln, buddha, marx, or jesus, right or wrong, gud or bad, di ones who've make di greatest difference are di ones wey be driven by a purpose. Great live are purposeful live, dem be no bi plodders and dem be no bi pushers.

if you wan live di maximum life, you need to pomp into god's purpose for ya life and discover, develop and maintain it.

di following are a couple for references to men who found and lived life for di third level - purposeful living. First na david, king for israel from di old testament. Di para para testament says for acts 13:36 "for wen david had serve god's purpose for im own generation, im fell asleep (died); im na buried. " isn't dat a great verse? pesin says, "what's so great wey concern dat? im serve god's purpose and then im kpai. " wetin plenti fit you tok wey concern pesin? im do wetin god promise am to do wit im life. Then im kpai. Im kpai, great, nothing else to do. Im na wetin god promise am be and then im died—what an epitaph. Im serve god's purpose for im generation.

anoda example na di apostle paul. Now dia na a man who knew im purpose for life. Im say for acts 20:24 "i dey consider mai life worth nothing to me, if only i fit clear di race and complete di task di lord jesus don give me. " underline dos words for ya bible: complete di task di lord jesus don give me.

for dis series, i wan you to discover di task say di lord wan you to complete. It no go necessarily be exactly di same as paul's, for fact, it no go. But by di end for awa series, mai goal na for you to don sontin dat you no get as e stand so. I wan you to get written komot life plan, yes, a written komot life plan! you might tok "well, i've lai lai do dat. " maybe dat's why you're a plodder. Maybe dat's why you're stuck on top dat pusher treadmill. I wan we to bible study and pray. I wan you to write komot ya own life plan. It amazes me how many business pipo go spend weeks crafting komot a written business plan for dia corporation. Or how many teachers go spend countless hours working on top lesson plans for dia classes, and yet would lai lai tink wey concern de tin be say constructing a life plan. Dat's no bi juss ironic, dat's foolish.

let's get begin developing a life plan for di maximum life by considering god's general purpose for pipo. For di oda lessons for dis series, di maximum life, specific application for awa own live go de make as dem be revisited.

wetin are god's purpose for im pipo?

1. To be loved by god.

for ephesians 2:4-5 paul say, "but sake of im great love for we, god, who na hol for mercy, make we alive. " im make we to love we. 1 john 4:10, "this na love: no bi wey we loved god, but wey he loved we and send im own pikin become atoning sacrifice for awa sins. " dat's di whole motivation behind di crucifixion.

now folks, if you miss dat, you realli miss di core reason for living. I'm amazed for how many pipo wey miss dat tend to tink dat god no de laik dem and dat god put dem here to run through a maze to sight how im fit trip dem up. No! rid yourself for di kain thinking dat says god does no bi love you. Otherwise, you'll lai lai discover ya purpose for life. God loves you pass anything or pesin else possibly fit.

2. To manage im creation.

im set dat purpose forth for di garden for eden. "so god created man for im own image, for di image for god im created am; male and female im created dem. God blessed dem and say give dem, "be fruitful and chop up for number; fill di earth and subdue it. Rule ova di fish for di sea and di birds for di air and ova everi living creature dat moves for di ground. " (genesis 1:27-28)

pipo, dis na di concept for stewardship. Awa god owns evritin dat na and we are put here as stewards. For oda words, we're put here as managers. It's laik di fellow for di big grocery store. Im no de own all for di stock for di shelf, but im's get hand it. Im na put dia by di owner for dat store be for charge for it. God make humans to prudently manage di whole earth, then and now. Dat's part for why we're here.

3. To do gud tins.

im make we to do gud tins. Ephesians 2:10 de make dat perfectly clear, "for we are god's workmanship, created for christ jesus to do gud work, which god prepared for advance make we do." now later we're going to look for wetin kain gud tins dat god created make we do, and you'll even don di opportunity to analyze ya own life and to prioritize di gud work dat god realli wan you to do for inside di things wey e contain for ya own existence bicos all for we don different existences. We live different live.

4. To flex life.

john 8, jesus tells we di devil na liar; for fact, im na di papa for all lies. Surely, di biggest lai dat satan don ever get humanity to buy into na dat awa god wan we be miserable. For di garden for eden, satan essentially told eve as im na looking for dat fruit, "oh, god no de wan you to don any fun. God no de wan you to realli flex life." im's been destroying we by di millions wit dat old lai ever tey tey.

jesus say "i don com dat you fit don life and don it go di full." (john 10:10) dat na awa theme verse for dis whole series. "i don com dat you fit don life and don it go di full." read dat again "i don com dat you fit don life and don it go di full." paul say for 1 timothy 6:17 "put ya shey for god who richly provides for awa groove." hear me bicos dis go hit some for di lies dat satan don had you believe. God make you to don fun. Im make you to flex life, but dat comes by living komot im purpose for we, no bi by believing all di devil's lies. Dat's part for di main main wey we are going to discover ova di remaining lessons. Pipo, mark dis four purpose wella bicos we go com back give dem.

why living komot god's purpose so important?

1. It increases mai motivation.

it increases mai motivation bicos purpose provides motivation. Wen you discover di ansa go di kweshion, why am i here? it go amaze you how boku plenti energy you get. You go hop komot for bed say, "good morning, lord!" instead for, "good lord, it's morning!" god say for jeremiah 29:11, "'for i sabi di plans i get for you,' declares di lord, 'plans to prosper you and no bi harm you, plans to find you shey for a future.'" how does dat mek you feel?

wen you plug into god's purpose for ya life, you get enthusiastic. For fact, do you sabi wia we get di word enthusiasm? enthusiasm comes from two greek words put together—en theos, meaning "in god." wen you de for god, for im go, for im plan and for im purpose, you de enthusiastic. It's automatic.

now obviously, i'm no bi juss talking wey concern being a christian. I hate to tok dis, but you already sabi it, way too many christians aren't enthusiastic for all. Di reason na, afta obeying di gospel wey be di foundation for god's purpose for dia life, dem quit find god's purpose. Dem quit looking here. Dem quit looking through

oda believers. It's laik dem obeyed di gospel, by believing, repenting, confessing and being baptized into christ and tok, "thank you jesus, for forgiveness and salvation, i'll take it from here. " dem jump for and dem drive off into di desert for plodding, or di desert for pushing until dem run komot for gas. But by living for inside god's plan for ya life everyday ya tank stays full and you dey motivated. It de make all di difference for di world.

2. It eliminates distraction.

dis na main main! one for di pitfalls for dis generation na we juss don too many options, no we? wen i na a boi growing up, we had three tv channels we received on top awa old black and white television. Only one com for clear wit rabbit ears. Wit cable and satellite and hundreds for channels, many devoted to bin dey, sports, movies, blue film, comedy or cartoons we get many options. Now ipods and cell phones provide even plenti options. Distractions are brekete.

we've enhanced technology wit mobility. Di options to fill awa taim are limitless, but awa taim na limited. We still don 24 hours a day. Frankly, many for we no get taim to do evritin. I no get taim to do evritin. Pushers, and dem get a lot for pushers komot dia who need to hear dis. Pushers tink di plenti dem get do, di plenti satisfied dem go be. Wrong! wrong! wrong! selection na di name for di game for effectiveness. Concentrating ya energy on top wetin god wan you to do, no bi wetin everybody else wan you to do. Wen you hone for on top wetin ya real purpose for life na, it no bi only tells you wetin you need to do, it also tells you wetin you no need to do.

too many for you de very efficient, but you're no bi effective. Do you sabi wetin di difference na between efficient and effective? efficiency na doing tins right, effectiveness na doing right tins. I wan mek sure i'm doing di right tins, rather than juss doing tins right. If you're no bi sofri, you'll end up arranging deck chairs for di titanic. You don ever think wey concern dat? it looks gud, it's all neat and it's for order, but di ship na sinking. Effectiveness!

peter drucker na perhaps di leading management guru for dis past century. Im na ask one taim: wetin's di basic tin dat everi business owner needs to sabi? drucker say, "there are only two kweshion business say di owner needs to sabi. Number one, wetin be mai business? and number two, how na business?" dat's wetin you need to ask. Wetin be mai business for life? and kweshion number two, how's business?

life focus don tremendous power; it's laik a lait dat na focused. Take a lait and focus it through a magnifying glass. You go concentrate di energy for di lait to wia it fit set a piece for paper on top faya. If you take it and concentrate it even plenti you create a tin dem dey call a laser wey fit cut through anything. Lait concentrated don power, lait diffused no get dat power—the same way wit life. Life concentrated don power. Life diffused don no power for all. Paul understood dis, im say for philippians 3:13, "but one tin i do: forgetting wetin be behind and straining toward wetin be ahead, i press on top to won di goal. " di number one game for amerika as e stand so na trivial pursuit and i'm no bi talking wey concern di board game. I'm talking wey concern life. Di ridiculous way we fill awa live wit tins dat no mata.

di average american who go live to wey concern age 85 go spend wey concern ten years watching television. Tell me, for all di tins dat you get watched, you don seen e don do dat's worth find up 10 years for?

some for you de too busy. Some for you, some for we, are pulled into too many directions, no bi doing bad tins, but chasing trivial tins. Di end result na disappointing. Di maximum life eliminates distractions.

3. It attracts assistance.

dem get so few pipo wey sabi wia dem be going for life dat if you'll figure it komot; dem'll wan go wit you. Dat's di nature for di beast. If dem sense you get purpose, dem'll wan go. Dat's true wit even purpose-driven pipo wey are headed for di wrong direction. Dem get lots for folks, david koresh's, louis farrakhan's and shirley maclaine's for dis world, leading odas for a wrong direction. Dem've get followings juss bicos dem've get a purpose. If you follow god's purpose for ya life, you go de respected, you go de emulated and you go de followed.

di greatest way to help oda pipo na be wetin god make you be. Dat's di greatest way to help oda pipo, to juss be wetin god make you be. If laik david, you serve god's purpose for ya generation. God go bless many, many live through you.

4. It prepares me for god's evaluation.

dis na realli pass important for all. One for dis days, we are going to kpai. One for dis days, i'm going to kpai. One for dis days, you're going to kpai. One for dis days, all de kain we dey define history na going to end and we go tanda before god's judgment seat, so says hebrews 9:26-27, romans 14:10 and a host for oda passages for scripture. I've heard some pipo tok dat wen we tanda before dat judgment seat, dat's going be di final exam for life. No it's no bi, dat's wen you get ya test paper back. We're for di final exam as e stand so bicos we've already get di kweshion. We're working for di answers. Everi day, we are filling for di blanks.

you tok, "wait a minute, i don't sabi wetin kweshion are for di final exam." wella, dem get juss two. Wen you tanda before di judgment seat for god, i go tell you as e stand so wetin dem be. Dem get only two kweshion. Dem be, paraphrased and stated generically, "what do you do wit mai pikin jesus christ?" and "what do you do wit ya life?" awa god na di creator and di oga. Im get invested some kain talents, abilities and gifts for you and im get planned some kain functions for inside di bodi, di church, for you to do. How u dey doing on top ya exam? wetin answers you don filled for last week? wetin u dey going to write down by ya actions dis week?

awa goal na dat by di end for dis series you go get life plan, genuinely based on top god's purpose for you. But, to close dis lesson i wan ask di second kweshion first. "what do you do wit ya life today?" bicos living life go di best way we possibly fit by awa own initiative and power no go rid we for a single sin. We are so contaminated by sin wey we no fit live wit god forever for heaven bicos im na all holy. For am na lait and e get no darkness for all. We no go go heaven wit awa iniquities, and all for we don iniquities. So, wetin be ya ansa to god's first kweshion "what do you do wit mai pikin jesus christ?" di gud bin dey na, im send im pikin to kpai on top dat cross, make if by faith we connect go dat cross, trusting and believing dat jesus na god's pikin, being willing to confess say before pesin, repenting, which way turning; i. e. , turning ya life away from di trivial and worldly tins, changing ya worldly and sinful life say, "i wan follow am. " then culminating dat faith response by being baptized, re-enacting di death, burial and resurrection for christ, make you fit be awoof from ya sin. Dat's di beginning, dat's di birth. From dat point forward, it na loving jesus, loving jesus for saving you, loving jesus bicos im loved you first.

kweshion number one for di judgment day na: "what do you do wit mai pikin jesus christ?" u dey willing to mek di commitment to am now? remember dis na di cornerstone, it na di purpose dat god don for ya life. Dis na wia it starts. Come christ today. Lesson # 1296 january 12, 1997

chapter 2

wetin are mai values?

for im book, ordering ya private world, gordon macdonald tells wey concern a fren dat na di duty officer on top a nuclear submarine for di mediterranean. On top one occasion while di captain na for im quarters, di duty officer na for di very bowels for di submarine. Dia na a lot for naval go slow overhead so im na forced to mek some rather abrupt and sudden maneuvers to avoid any potential collisions.

for inside a mata for moments di captain com down go di bridge, di control room. Im looked for di duty officer and ask "is evritin all shikena." "yes sir," reply di duty officer. Di captain took a quick look dey and begin to go back up di ladder while muttering under im breath, "everything looks all right to me, too. "

wen i read dat little illustration, it reminded me so boku for life. For one danger na lurking—above we, dey we and below we. Dem get tins dat would wreck awa live. Di alert captain, rather trying to necessarily handle everi distraction dat might com dia way, immediately went go di control room and looked dey and ask "is evritin all right down here?"

i wan you to temporarily fashi all dat's go on dey you. Try ya best to fashi di distractions, di frustrations and di dangers dat go way down deep for inside, all di way down to ya control room. Di place di scripture calls di heart. Look dey and sight if evritin looks all right dia to you, too.

sight, di main main to building di maximum life na no bi so boku for taking send de kain's komot dia but taking send de kain's for here, di heart, mind or intellect. Laik dat submarine, na wetin steers.

way down deep for inside dat determines either di success or di failure for di journey. For di human life, dos tins are dem dey call values. Dos core tins dat you cherish and live for are for di very bowels for ya soul. Dem be di essence for life. Make's go down and look for awa values.

wetin are ya values?

a. Ya values determine ya direction.

you don ever noticed how many pipo are directionless for life? pipo laik ya neighbors or co-workers go wit di flow and roll wit di punch. If a fad comes up, dem chase di fad. Dem juss tro to and fro. James say "a double-minded man na unstable for all im does." (james 1:8) a couple for verses earlier, im compares dat double-minded man go cork or a buoy for di sea dat na tossed back and forth by di waves.

now we no use dat terminology often today. We no yan wey concern double-minded pipo. Wella, wetin be james talking wey concern dia? a double-minded man or a woman na simply pesin who na unsure for im or am values. Dia na whole generation for pipo wey are nowhere close to living di maximum life bicos deh get no idea wetin dia values are.

george gallup do a poll no too tey tey concluding di number one stress factor, wahala or wahala facing di baby boomer generation na no bi a lack for kudi, a lack for taim or relational conflict, and na wetin im calls, "incongruent values." for oda words, im says, we tok we believe one tin and then we live for a totally different way.

, we baby boomers tok, "we believe for family. We tink dat's pass important tin;" however, di average papa spends an uninterrupted interaction wit each pikin for less than two minutes a day. Im worships im career. We tok dat gud health na important. But, we admit wen ask, "do you chop shikena." "well no, no bi realli." you

ask, "do you exercise?" "well no, we no realli exercise, but gud health na important to me. " we tok tins laik, "materialism na bad. " then go deep for debt trying to keep up wit di joneses.

wen you get drag values, you're a ship dead for di water. You de going nowhere. Dat's why solomon say for proverbs 4:23, "above all else, guard ya heart, for it na di wellspring for life. " im na say: wetin you value directs ya life. If you de to i no de lie tell me wetin you value for life, i fit predict wia ya life na going to go. Everi decision you mek na reason say ya values; dem direct ya life.

b. Ya values end up determining ya destiny.

no de dat mek sense? if mai values chart di course i'm going to follow then dem pretty wella assure wia i'm going to end up. Jesus say for mark 8, verses 36 and 37, "'what gud na it for a man to gain di whole world, yet forfeit im soul? or wetin fit a man find for exchange for im soul?'" wetin you value na wetin you find ya life to, and ultimately na wetin you de going to find ya soul to. So values are extremely important, dem be di axle dat turns di wheel.

wia do i get mai values?

you get dem from a lot for places, but ultimately dem get two basic sources. You get dem from christ or culture. To put it anoda way, you get ya values from di word or from di world. Now it's pretty small small to determine wetin christ's values are if you get to sabi im book, di bible and you'll get real gud handle on top wetin im value system na all wey concern.

pesin say, "what wey concern di world's value system, awa culture? wetin are di values wey dem propose?" i suggest say di surest place to get a little synopsis for di world's values na commercials. For 15 seconds, you fit find komot wetin di world tinks you value bicos dat's di button dem be trying to push. Dem be appealing to ya basic motivation. You fit pretty wella wrap it up for three words. We've talked wey concern dis before.

a. Pleasure.

awa culture values pleasure. It's di number one industry for amerika right now—the entertainment industry. It grosses plenti kudi than any oda single industry. We are a very sensual society. We juss wan don fun, so if it feels gud we do it. Dat's a value say di world proposes.

b. Possessions.

you sabi americans believe for life, liberty and buy for happiness, no we? we are consumed wit consuming. We kain live by di motto say di one wit pass toys na going to won. Di world na silently, but very forcefully dey give we di message: ya sef worth na equal to ya net worth.

c. Power – prestige – position.

dem be all linked together. It's di third leg for di cultural value system. Look for di commercials. You don ever noticed how dem insidiously wan you? di bobo puts on top im racing gloves, dos dark glasses, gets for inside dat sport coupe and di announcer says, "own di road. " dat's power right dia. One for di ones dat's so ironic na di advertiser and di credit card which says, "get control for ya life!" do you sight di appeal go dat perceived value for power?

dis. Contrary go di devil's propaganda, god na no bi against all dos tins.

dem get plenti pipo wey believe di lai dat god na some prude who says, "if you're a christian, you no fit don any pleasure, no fun. If you're a christian, you no fit don very many possessions. You've get to e remain small be a pauper. If you're a christian, you've get be a meek, weak, little worm. No you ever don any power?" dat na contrary to wetin god says. No! no! god lai lai says dat. Im lai lai says you no fit don pleasure, im lai lai says you no fit don possessions. Im lai lai says you no fit don some power. Wetin god says na dos no fit be ya values. Dos no fit be di core desires for ya heart, or you'll miss di maximum life.

john, wey dey for im nineties and an aged apostle, say "do no bi love di world or anything for di world. If pesin loves di world, di love for di papa na no bi for am. For evritin for di world; di cravings for sinful man, di lust for im eyes and di boasting de kain im get and does-comes no bi from di papa but from di world." (niv) di para para king james version states "do no bi love di world or di tins for di world. If pesin loves di world, di love for di papa na no bi for am. For all dat na for di world — di lust for di flesh, di lust for di eyes, and di gara-gara for life." (1 john 2:15-16)

do you sabi wetin dos are? dos are di three tins we juss talked wey concern. Di lust for di flesh—pleasure, di lust for di eyes—possessions and di gara-gara for life—power. Wetin god says through john na, no love dos tins, dem be no bi from di papa, dem com from di world.

proverbs 21:21 states, "he who pursues righteousness and love finds life, prosperity, and honor." we neglect dis to awa own downfall. Do you notice dos benefits? if you go value di right tins, god go find you di tins di world craves. God go find you life. Im'll find you prosperity. Im'll find you honor. Dos are roughly equivalent to pleasure, possessions, and power. If you value righteousness and love god says, "i'll take send for di rest, and i'll find dem to you for proper measure to mek ya life all it fit be." no praise di value system for culture. Praise di value system for christ.

how fit i build mai life on top right and lasting values?

how do i go wey concern doing dat?

a. Assess wetin's important.

"let we discern for ourselves wetin be right; make we sabi together wetin be gud." (job 34:4) sight, before we fit do wetin be gud we've get to discern wetin be gud. Deciding wetin's important for one's life na one for di basic problems for amerika.

as stated earlier, dis generation na characterized by incongruent values. Dat's bicos we seldom take di taim to ask: wetin do i value? wetin be realli important to me? several for you i am sure see di recent study which show dat television shapes pikin's values pass papa and mama. Now wey's sad! but we all knew dat na true. A pikin watches television five hours a day. A pikin seldom spends dat boku taim wit a parent. Television shapes pikin's values for amerika today pass papa and mama. But here's di oda tin, it's no bi juss di pikin. We, adults begin to assemble tv, videos and movies present values. Wetin we first fit sight, we fit roll awa eyes, or we fit

even gasp, and then we juss kain keep watching and taim passes. We fit laff wey concern it and afta a while, we subconsciously embrace it.

dis na main main. Most americans are basing dia live, dia futures, and dia pikin's future on top values we no even choose. Dat's no bi too smart, na it? we're basing awa whole destinies on top values we're no bi even thinking wey concern. Stop and decide wetin's realli

important for life! then you need to write komot ya definition for success for ya life.

if you dis lessons to realli mean sontin to ya life, you'll write ya own definition for success. Then no you make pesin or anything shikena! you off center to cause you to buy into dia definition for success.

do you sabi wetin success na? it na no bi making lots for kudi. It na no bi having a powerful position. It's no bi having pleasure everi minute. Success na living komot ya values. Dat's wetin im be. It's no bi a destination; it's di journey you travel as you live komot di values dat you believe are important. No make pesin else determine dat for you. Success na living komot ya values.

now incidentally, teens, singles, young marrieds, middle agers or senior saints, you fit be successful for any stage for ya life bicos again, success na no bi some point down di road based on top how you feel, wetin you get or wetin you do. Success na living komot ya values day by day. You fit flex success as e stand so if you're living komot ya values. Now obviously if dos values de base upon christ and im word and im promises, then di success you flex na god-given and na eternal.

make me ask you a kweshion: you don taken di taim to analyze wetin you realli value? betta yet, you don written dem down make you fit review dem ever so often? di foundation go di maximum life na to first assess wetin's important.

i tink one for wey dey create ways to sabi wetin you value na to ansa a couple for shikena kweshion. Imagine dat you're 90 years old, some for you fit be, but most for you aren't. a) look back on top ya life and write down di five tins you go don most promise to do for ya life. b) write down wetin are di five ways or tins dat you most wan pipo to remember wey concern you. Dos 10 tins, di five tins you most wan don do and di five tins you wan pipo most to remember, are ya core values. Why no you do dat?

di wahala na we rarely take di taim to examine awa values until we get a crisis. Wen tins are going great and you're having fun, you no stop and ask if dat na wetin life na realli all wey concern? u dey focusing on top wetin's important? no, make you juss go through life and don fun. But, wen ya life gets jolted by some crisis i. e. , di death for a loved one, a divorce, bankruptcy, lay-off, major illness or di kids mess up, then for ya pain, you begin dey ask: wetin does it realli mata? hear me; no wait for di valleys to clarify ya values. Set dem now, and if you do, you go avoid a great deal for pain and you go minimize di rest. Set dos anchors deep for inside di very control room for ya ship, assess wetin's important.

b. Bail-out de kain's unimportant.

i sabi. You no get taim to do evritin. Frankly, most tins for life aren't worth doing even if we do don di taim. We suppose pass on top it. Di main main premise go di maximum life na dat life na too important to waste. No fill ya taim wit junk. Look for psalm 119:37, "turn mai eyes away from worthless tins. "

wen i na juss komot for college, probably 22 or 23 years old, di video age dawned. I get hooked on top video games. Back then, dem only had two, for you old-timers who fit remember dem had pac man and asteroids. Now dem fit do evritin. Before long and wit a little skill i fit play 45 minutes to an hour for a quarter. I would

catch masef, silly as it sounds, on top mai lunch hour going ova and seeing if i fit beat di oda scores. For di way haus from work, i'd juss stop by and play a little game. Then all for a sudden it dawned on top me, i na spending three to four hours a day on top nothing. Nothing. Today you get di computer games.

now folks, a little later on top, we're going to yan wey concern scheduling. No misunderstand— everi life needs some recreation. Everi life needs wetin i call some chill taim, but no make di tail wag di dog. Life na far too important to waste it on top worthless books, magazines, tv or worthless games—that's e remain small redundant, na so??—worthless games.

here's an activity you need to do. Chart how you spend ya day for di next seven days. Now you suppose be doing dat sha. But do it dis week. Then lay it along area ya values and ask yourself if you're living komot wetin's realli important to you. As you look for ya activities are dia some tins dat you wish you hadn't do? are dia some tins you wish you had juss comot undone and filled di taim wit sontin plenti valuable.

for philippians 3:8, paul say, "everything else na worthless wen compared go di price for gain for knowing christ. " dia's a man who knew im values and evritin wey concern im life na shaped dey wetin im core values de. I'm no bi say you go de a paul, god make all for we differently. But if we're going to live di maximum life, god wan we to assess wetin's important and to bail komot di unimportant and to concentrate for di eternal—concentrate on top wetin realli lasts.

dia na a book dat com komot a few years tey by tony campolla dem dey call, who switched di price tag? for preparing for dat book, campolla ask one big number for 90 year olds, "if you fit go back and live ya life again, wetin would you do differently dat you no do last taim?" di number one ansa dos 90 year olds find na "i would invest plenti taim for tins dat would outlast me. " isn't dat a great ansa? i would invest plenti for mai taim for tins wey i sabi would endure.

wen you write komot ya core values dis week and analyze dem, close dat analysis wit dis kweshion: how long na dis value going to last? if one for ya values na pleasure, do you sabi wetin ya honest ansa go be—a few seconds—because dat na all pleasure na designed for. It's laik cotton candy—poof—it's gone. It go last a few seconds and it's ova. If one for ya values na possessions, i'll tell you how long it go last, it go last until it rots, tears up, breaks, or gets stolen. If ya value na power, position or authority, how long na it going to last? it na either going to last until pesin smarter, brighter or faster comes along and takes it away from you, or until you kpai. Dat's how long it's going to last. But, wetin does last? dat's wetin di whole bible na wey concern. It's wey concern wetin realli lasts.

"we focus no bi for di tins which are seen, but for di tins which are unseen. For dat wey be seen na temporary, and wetin be unseen na eternal. " i've give you two or three tins dia. But jesus say, "seek first di kingdom for god and im righteousness. " i tink a fair synonym for di kingdom for god na im value system, letting am be di lord for awa heart. Di rest for dat verse says, "everything else go de add to you dat you need. " (2 corinthians 4:18)

for 1 corinthians 13, paul talks wey concern all tins eventually fading or passing away, but for verse 13 im states "but dis three remain:" and im go on top to tok, "faith, shey, and love. " you sabi dos are di tins wey de going to remain wen evritin else fades away. Dem suppose be represented for mai value system somewhere. Would you gree wit dat? if i wan values dat last, then faith, shey, and love are di only tins wey de going to remain. I sure wan dos. By di way, di verse concludes by say, di greatest for dis na love.

"the only tin dat counts na faith expressing itself for love. " (galatians 5:6) wen you write komot ya values go you sight if dos values reflect dos clear teachings we're studying? lasting success na built on top values dat last; faith, shey, love, god's word and jesus christ.

im na di same yesterday, today, and forever. Dat's why jesus say for matthew 16:26, "what would it profit a man if im de to gain di whole world, yet im de to lose im own soul. " ya soul na going to last forever, and dis world isn't. It's no bi worth being a top value.

"for me to live na christ, and to kpai na. " wetin? "gain. " to live na christ, and to kpai na gain. Paul's value na christ and di outcome na eternity, it's di future for heaven. It's great. You plug for any oda value for dat and sight wetin ansa you get. For me to live na kudi, and to kpai na - i go lose it all. For me to live na pleasure, and to kpai na – i go lai lai don anymore. For me to live na power, and to kpai na - it's ova.

wen you mek ya values list, i wan assure you dat e get realli only one dat suppose take di chief seat. It's di only one dat you fit fit into di blank, paul's little sentence, "for me to live na _____ and to kpai na _____. It's di only one you fit fit for dat dey make am work. "for me to live na christ, and to kpai na (actually) gain. " di foundation for successful, significant powerful living na to embrace right values; consciousness, to analyze dem regularly and to lai lai ever make dem go.

dis week, go down for di control room for ya life and look dey. Go you i no de lie fit to tok, "everything looks all right here, too. " it go de di greatest tin dat you fit ever do dis week.

na christ for di head for di list? na im di real captain for ya ship? now a lot tok yes, but many for we no live dat way. Dat's di incongruent value tin. But na im ya lord kukuma as ya savior? success na only possible wit christ bicos im na di only real value for life. Lesson # january 19, 1997

chapter 3

ya function for inside di bodi

di church na spiritual bodi. For fact, it na di bodi for christ wit am tin wey dey gud head. It na jesus who guides, organizes, oversees and shepherds di bodi for order for we be wetin im wan we be and to do wetin im wan we to do.

“and god placed all tins under im feet and appointed am be head sometin wey de show for di church, wey be im bodi, di fullness for am who fills evritin for everi way.” (ephesians 1:22-23)

“it na im (jesus) who find some be apostles, some be prophets, some be evangelists, and some be pastors and teachers, to prepare god's pipo for work for service, so say di bodi for christ fit be built up until we all reach unity for di faith and for di knowledge for di pikin for god and become mature, attaining go di whole measure for di fullness for christ. ” (ephesians 4:11-13)

di church na compared to awa physical bodi to help we na structure and diversity for parts or pipo, all wey are necessary for di church or bodi take perform na task, function or work for unity and harmony efficiently. Dis fit only happun wen everi bodi part na performing na specialty. Now it na true dat awa bodies fit kontinu to function without some kain parts functioning or functioning ineffectively; i. e. , lack for sight or hearing, a missing arm or leg, only one lung, etc. But it na also true dat it perform plenti efficiently wen all parts wey we and functioning as designed. It must also be true say di spiritual bodi na boku plenti effective if all na pipo perform dia dash (function) for unity and harmony as god designed.

jesus organizes di church so wey we fit function properly. Im organizes im bodi by dey give a dash(s); i. e. , assigning ministries or functions to each and everi member. You de who you de for di bodi for christ bicos jesus decide wetin ya part na be. Ya assigned ministry na no bi ya decision. Jesus na di one who decides. “it na im who find some be apostles, some be prophets, some be evangelists, and some be pastors and teachers, to

prepare god's pipo for work for service, so say di bodi for christ fit be built up until we all reach unity for di faith and for di knowledge for di pikin for god and become mature, attaining go di whole measure for di fullness for christ." (ephesians 4:11-13) we juss wan recognize and submit to im decision.

jesus demands say all pipo be involved - 100%. No bodi na unnecessary. None are unimportant. No bodi na excluded or excused. All pipo for di bodi for christ don been give a dash or ministry.

di work for di church fit be roughly divided into three areas: evangelism, edification and service. Through evangelism, di kingdom expands. Edification na for each christian to grew to maturity and remain faithful. For service, we express god's character for god na love. We get active concern for odas for dia necessities. Dis three areas overlap greatly for practice.

gifts are no bi natural talents or developed skills. Dem be no bi personality types. Gifts are functions, ministries, services or roles. Dem be each one's specialized services. Remember say all christians suppose be merciful, but some don di dash for dey show mercy. Dat na dia specialty or dia special ministry. No bi evritin you do na classified as ya dash or ministry. Many tins are juss a part for ya duty as per christian. "now to each one di manifestation for di spirit na give for di normal gud. (1 corinthians 12:7) but e get some service to which you de to dedicate yourself, to specialize for. Dis na ya ministry. Through di exercise for awa dash, i. e. performing awa function or ministry, we all work together. Diverse personalities, ages, experiences all joined for a normal enterprise requires wey we get along wella and wey we treat each oda wit respect and consideration. If one or plenti member fails to do dia task, di bodi fails to operate as effectively as god desires.

some steps to help you determine ya dash(s)

spiritual gifts (gifts for di holy spirit) de give to you by god wen you became a christian. Di para para testament does no bi find a list for steps for determining one's spiritual dash. We are told to pursue gifts, to prepare and to use dem, but we are no bi told how to determine dem, at least no bi for a concise list. Di following steps are suggestions on top how to proceed and are no bi considered di final, authoritative word for di subject.

1. Place yourself entirely for god's disposal: dis na objective decision for yours wey be implied by ya decision cloth a christian. Tok to god as isaiah do: "here am i, send me." isaiah 6:8. Declare to god: "not mai go but ya go de do." without dis attitude, why would we expect god to ansa we wen we ask am how im wan use we?

2. Pray: you know say god get one purpose for you for di bodi for christ. So now you ask am to show you wetin im be, knowing wey he go ansa for it na im go. Psalm 25:12. Praying for dis we are simply dey ask for god to reveal to we wetin jesus don determined for we be doing.

3. Review di lists for gifts for di para para testament: you need to begin thinking wey concern wetin god calls a ministry. Di following are some examples for gifts or ministries (not de include temporary or miraculous ones) dat suppose find you an idea.

a. "and for di church god don appointed first for all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers for miracles, also dos having gifts for healing, dos able to help odas, dos wit gifts for administration, and dos speaking for different kinds for tongues." (1 corinthians

12:28)

b. "it na im who find some be apostles, some be prophets, some be evangelists, and some be pastors and teachers, to prepare god's pipo for work for service, so say di bodi for christ fit be built up until we all reach unity for di faith and for di knowledge for di pikin for god and become mature, attaining go di whole measure for di fullness for

christ. " (ephesians 4:11-13)

c. "for by di grace give me i tok to everi one for you: no tink for yourself plenti highly than you ought, but rather tink for yourself wit sober judgment, for accordance wit di measure for faith god don give you. Juss as each for we don one bodi wit many pipo, and dis pipo no all don di same function, so for christ we wey be many form one bodi, and each member belongs to all di odas. We get different gifts, according go di grace give we. If a man's dash na prophesying, make am use it for proportion to im faith. If it na serving, make am serve; if it na teaching, make am teach; if it na encouraging, make am encourage; if it na contribute go di needs for odas, make am find generously; if it na leadership, make am govern diligently; if it na de show mercy, make am do it cheerfully. " (romans 12:3-8)

d. "each one suppose use whatever dash im get received to serve odas, faithfully administering god's grace for na various forms. If pesin speaks, im suppose do it as one speaking di very words for god. If pesin serves, im suppose do it wit di strength god provides, make for all tins god fit be praised through jesus christ. To am be di glory and di power forever and ever. " (1 peter 4:10-11)

tey tey dis lists are no bi identical we conclude dat dem be no bi exhaustive.

shepherd, pastor, bishop

evangelist, preacher, minister

teacher

deacon

one who show mercy

one who gives aid/helps

exhorter

one who gives

administrator

di following summarizes some for dis functions. Evangelists and preacher

"in di presence for god and for christ jesus, who go judge di living and di dead, and for see for im appearing and im kingdom, i find you dis charge: preach di word; be prepared for season and komot for season; correct, rebuke and encourage-with great patience and sofri instruction. For di taim go com wen men no go put up wit sound doctrine. Instead, to suit dia own desires, dem go gather dey dem a great number for teachers to tok wetin dia itching ears wan hear. Dem go turn dia ears away from di true and turn aside to myths. But you, keep ya head for all situations, endure hardship, do di work for an evangelist, discharge all di duties for ya ministry. " (2 timothy 4:1-5) pastors, overseers and elders

1. Prepare god's pipo for work for service

2. Serve as overseers
3. Consider a doctrinal kweshion
4. Keep watch and be on top guard ova yourselves and all di flock
5. Be examples
6. Direct di affairs for di church (evangelize, edify, restore, rebuke, discipline and be an example)
7. Eager to serve
8. Hold firmly go di trustworthy message
9. Encourage odas by sound doctrine
10. Refute dos who oppose
11. Pray
12. Lay hands upon individuals selected for a work needed by di bodi.
13. Receive reports for work for odas
14. Rebuke and discipline teachers

“each one suppose use whatever dash im get received to serve odas, faithfully administering god's grace for na various forms. If pesin speaks, im suppose do it as one speaking di very words for god. If pesin serves, im suppose do it wit di strength god provides, make for all tins god fit be praised through jesus christ. To am be di glory and di power forever and ever.” (1 peter 4:10-11) christians

“just as each for we don one bodi wit many pipo, and dis pipo no all don di same function, so for christ we wey be many form one bodi, and each member belongs to all di odas. We get different gifts (functions) - charisma, charismatos, charizomai a dash for grace; a favor which one receives without any merit for im own) according go di grace give we. If a man's dash na prophesying, make am use it for proportion to im faith. If it na serving, make am serve; if it na teaching, make am teach; if it na encouraging, make am encourage; if it na contribute go di needs for odas, make am find generously; if it na leadership, make am govern diligently; if it na de show mercy, make am do it cheerfully.” (romans 12:4-8)

deacons

some tink acts 6 specifies di work for deacons odas no gree. It suppose be noted dat luke does no bi call dem deacons abi na dia any indication dat dos selected met di qualifications specified for 1 timothy. Dia work na properly identified for di meaning for di diakonos, serve. For additional studies refer to work for deacons, nov. 28, 2005.

4. Consider di needs for di church: peter plainly tells we wey we are to employ awa gifts for serving one anoda as gud stewards for god's varied grace (1 peter 4:10). Gifts are ministries or services. To serve na to meet a need. Di purpose for di gifts na no bi to keep pipo busy but to meet needs for di church no bi awa individual needs. So we must look go di needs for di church. As dis needs become apparent, follow ya desires for fulfilling dem.

5. Look for opportunities: begin a journal for doors dat god don opened for you. As taim go on top you fit begin to sight a direction for which im na leading you.

6. Seek guidance from church leadership: ephesians 4:11, 12 says say di gifts for church leadership are give go di church for di equipping for di saints. Mek gud use for dis gifts for di leadership.

7. Take di initiative: you get prayed go di lord, reviewed di list for ministries for di para para testament, taken into account di needs for di church say di lord don brought to ya attention and possibly even put di desire for you to fulfill. You get noted dat god na always opening up doors for opportunity for some kain directions and you get talked tins ova wit di leadership for di church. Wait no longer, take di initiative and get on top wit wetin di lord for get you be doing.

suppose pesin attempt to stop you from performing wetin you perceive ya ministry be, you fit find it necessary to look to peter and di oda apostles for guidance. "peter and di oda apostles reply: 'we must obey god rather than men!'" (acts 5:29)

chapter 4

committing to christ

previous lessons for dis series emphasized two critical steps: a) clarifying ya values and b) identifying ya god-given make-up, ya shape, toward maximizing ya life. But dem be absolutely worthless unless you commit ya life to jesus christ, wey be di focus for dis lesson.

now we live for a taim wen awa society fears commitment. Robert bella, sociologist for di university for southern california, wrote habits for di heart. Im say, "americans are committed to nothing. If we're committed to anything it's individual freedom and dey keep awa options open." now di wahala wit dat na wia it leads. If i no commit to anything, then i'm no bi going to get anything komot for life. It's laik going down a caff line and say, "well, i'm no bi going to choose mai entree as e stand so, i wan keep mai options open. I'll wait for di vegetables. I am going to keep mai options open." by di taim you get go di end for di line. You don't don anything for di tray, and dat's wetin happens for plenti live.

earlier for dis series, we tok say maintaining a focus na essential go di maximum life by no bi wasting taim on top tins dat no mata. Di main main to focus na commitment. Di number one tin necessary to living a life dat na realli full na to commit ya life to god's go through im pikin, jesus christ. Paul say for romans 12:1, "i beseech you brethren to present ya bodies as per living sacrifice wey be ya reasonable service (spiritual service-asv)." now hear me, wen i tok, "commit to christ," i'm talking wey concern pass a decision. I'm talking wey concern a commitment.

many for you get make a decision wey concern christ, but i tink it's fair to tok dat dem get many for you who don no bi realli committed to am. You wan di salvation wey he offers, but you're no bi sure you wan di lordship wey he demands. Dat's wetin we're talking wey concern wit commitment.

we need to commit awa life to christ bicos:

1. It na part for god's plan for awa life.

"we are god's workmanship, created for christ jesus to do gud work, which god prepared for advance make we do." (ephesians 2:10) dem get gud tins wey he created we to do. Notice "we are created (how?) for christ jesus to do gud work." for oda words, apart from a genuine commitment to christ, we go lai lai realize life's maximum purpose, awa potential until dat commitment na make.

i'm grateful for mai salvation.

paul say for 2 timothy 1:9 [jesus] saved we and dem dey call we go holy life, no bi sake of anything we get do, but sake of im own purpose and grace. I need to find mai life to god bicos im's give im life to me. Amen? god make di ultimate commitment wen im took for di form for man and com to earth to kpai on top dat cross for we as di perfect sin atonement. It's pretty obvious, but for di same taim extremely powerful.

if god lai lai do anoda tin for me, lai lai blessed anything else for mai life, lai lai answered anoda prayer, lai lai find me anoda morsel for food or lai lai say anoda kind word mai way, i owe am mai all as e stand so sake of wetin im do for me for di cross. Paul writing wey concern im own motivation for 1 corinthians 15:10 stated, "but by di grace for god i am wetin i am, and i labor plenti abundantly than dem all—yet no bi i, but di grace for god dat na wit me." i commit to christ bicos i'm grateful for mai salvation.

2. God promises to reward dat commitment.

if i'll jump for, i mean if i'll realli jump for, im'll reward dat commitment. Look for luke 6:38, many dey consider dis verse to yan wey concern dey give kudi, but it realli refers to all for life. "give, and it go de give to you. A gud measure, pressed down, shaken together and running ova, go de poured into ya lap." matthew records jesus stating wey concern di same tin "seek ye first di kingdom for god and im righteousness, and all dis tins go de add unto you." (matthew 6:33)

dos are juss two for dozens and dozens for fantastic promises for scripture wia god says if you'll juss put ya life for mai hands, i'll bring you blessings and benefits you no fit even imagine—if you'll juss trust me. Di plenti you commit to me, di plenti i go accomplish through you.

are dos no bi gud reasons; are dos no bi great reasons to commit ya life to christ? i no fit tink for any betta reason. So immediately pesin says, "why no de everybody do it then? why no de everybody commit to jesus?" everybody no de realli commit to christ sake of di resistance to commit, three wey are discussed below.

resistance to commitment to christ:

1. Nearsightedness- failure to take di long look.

we no look 20 or 30 years down di road, boku less from an eternal perspective. We juss tend to live for now. C. S. Lewis wrote sontin excellent for one for im books, "we don di wrong see. We tend to tink for ourselves as human beings who get spiritual dimension, wen for fact, we are spiritual beings simply passing through di human experience. Di big picture na, i'm a spiritual being, and i'm going to live forever somewhere. But, we get nearsighted and sight ourselves packaged for di flesh. Nearsightedness keeps awa focus on top wetin's di small small tin, di fun tin and di convenient tin, ignoring awa long-term values.

jesus say ""but di worries for dis life, di deceitfulness for wealth and di desires for oda tins com for and choke di word, making it unfruitful. "" (mark 4:19) awa lord hit di nail right for di head. We focus for di urgent, no bi di important. We lose sight for dos real values wey we evaluated for di "what are mai values" lesson. We stop dey ask, "when i'm 90 years old and looking back, wetin be it wey i most wan don do? how do i most wan be remembered?" all we tink wey concern na now. We no commit!

i love di tori for john skulley. For di mid-70s, im na di presido and chief executive officer for pepsi cola. Im became presido for age 34. Im had im face for di cover for everi major magazine. For age 42, im na on top top for di world making plenti kudi than im fit ever spend if im doled it komot everi second. A fellow by di name for steve jobe had begin up a fledgling little computer compin dem dey call, apple computer. Im had taken it wey concern as far as im fit take it. Im knew dis man john skulley na di man who fit take it to heights as yet unperceived. Im beg, and beg, and beg, and beg am to com, but skulley na making boku kudi. Finally, for new york penthouse, im looked for john and im ask am dis fateful kweshion: "john, do you wan spend di rest for ya life making sugared-water, or do you wan change di world?" dat do am. It break am komot for im nearsightedness, and im do take apple computer to unprecedented heights.

but dem get heights beyond computers. Di apostle john say for 1 john 2:17, "the world and all na passions and desires go one day vamoosh, but pesin who does di go for god go live forever. " we've get to get ova dat nearsightedness to commit.

2. Selfishness - thinking only wey concern sef.

many millions for pipo build dia whole world dey themselves and dem no get taim for god. I no get taim for god; i'm too busy wit mai career. I no get taim for god's purpose for mai life, i've get places to go, pipo to sight and tins to do. I've get dreams, i've get plans, i've get ambition. Now dis are pipo wey are for essence say, "now god, i sabi plenti wey concern mai life than you do. I sabi wetin's going to mek me happy, i sabi wetin's going to fulfill me. " but god says, "no, you no. I designed you and i built you. You tink you sabi, but you're blowing it. "

some for you read calvin and hobbs, di cartoon for di newspaper. Dia na one i see some taim back wey i think na realli cute. Calvin na looking for hobbs and say to am, "i'm for peace wit di world, and i'm pata pata serene. " hobbs say, "well, why na dat?" calvin say, "well, i've discovered mai purpose for life, i sabi why i na put here and why evritin exists. " hobbs say, "O ah-ahn?" calvin say, "yes, i'm here make everybody fit do wetin i wan. "

hobbs say, "well, it's nice to don cleared dat up. " calvin say, "yes, and once everybody else accepts it, dem'll be serene, too. "

we laff for dat, but dem get a whole lot for calvins for di world. Di world revolves dey dem. Once everybody else figures dat komot, dem'll be serene, too. But wen you live for yourself, you get a pretty small goal for life. But jesus say as recorded for mark 8:35, "for whoever wan save im life go lose it, but whoever loses im life for me and di gospel go save it. "

3. Fear.

among dos who don no bi yet realli committed dia life to christ, pure and shikena fear na probably pass normal reason. As fears com up, we ask ourselves kweshion laik: wetin go it cost? if i realli commit to christ, wetin go god require for me if i realli took im hand and make am lead me? would i become a fanatic? wetin go oda pipo tink? go i lose mai secular friends? go i no longer be dey sharp? wetin if i no fit keep mai commitment? wetin if i fail?

dos are di kain fears dat keep pipo from committing. Now, if dat includes you and dos fears don kept you from being wetin god wan you be, make me tell you wetin di source for dos fears na, aside from di old devil imsef. Di source for di fears na you no di character for god. Either you no realli trust im wisdom, or you no realli trust im love. Sadly, i tink for too many pipo, it's di latter.

folks, i wan tell you god na no bi some cosmic killjoy for di sky waiting to deal you a bummer. Im say, "i sabi di plans i get for you. Dem be for gud, and no bi for evil. " (jeremiah 29:11) everi papa, everi parent fit identify wit dis. If ya pikin na to come you and say, "dad, i respect you and i love you, you're mai pallee, and i wan live life di way you wan me to live it. " how would you respond go dat? pallee, would you look for dat pikin and tok, "ha, ha, ha, O boi, you no sabi it, but you're going be miserable from here on top komot. No bi ice cream—spinach, artichokes, and anchovies for you. I'm going to break ya play station. You're going to sidon for dat corner and wear a dunce cap di rest for ya life and lai lai go komot. " isn't dat ridiculous? it's absolutely absurd. Yet, dat na di very concept many pipo don wey concern dia life if dem commit it to god. Im's going to put me through some obstacle course to mek me miserable.

i want to tell you wetin, if mai pikin walks up to me and says, "dad, i wan commit mai life to ya purpose and goals, i wan be di pikin you wan me be. " i would do evritin, evritin for mai power to mek im life as wonderful as it fit possibly be. God, awa papa, says, "i wan do di same. " dat's why jesus say, "seek ye first di kingdom for god and im righteousness, and i'll add all dis tins to you. "

look for psalm 37:3, "trust for di lord and do gud; dwell for di land and flex safe pasture. Delight yourself for di lord and im go find you di desires for ya heart. Commit ya way go di lord; trust for am and im go do dis:" dat's di promise. I've get nothing to fear by committing mai life to christ. Life na going be plenti wonderful than it fit be otherwise.

why we need to commit to christ.

how do i respond wit commitment to christ? obviously, if you're no bi a christian, you need to put ya trust for christ and obey di gospel. Obviously, you need to recognize jesus as who im be, di pikin for god. You need to come am on top you knees say, "i believe say," confessing im name. You need be immersed into di death for christ being buried wit am, baptized into christ, for di forgiveness for ya sin. Dat na di way by which one accepts di grace dat god don offered. But some for you get already do dat. You've already obeyed di gospel. You get put on top christ having been buried wit am for baptism. Some for you assemble wit a church regularly, but if di true na sabi, you've yet to realli commit ya life to christ. You've yet to realli step on top im power and grace say, "i wan im way pass mai way. " wetin do you still need to do? di first tin you need to do na calculate. For luke 14:25, jesus na up front wey concern commitment. Im say if you're going to follow me, you'd betta reason am. Im say dia's no bi a man who would build a tower without first taking inventory for im kudi and im materials. Im would mek sure im fit clear. Im's no bi going to get halfway up and quit. Im say dia's no bi a king who's no bi going to take send to count im own forces before im go to war. If im's get 10,000, im's no bi likely to go do battle against pesin wit 20,000. Im say, "if you're going to commit to me, you betta reason am, you betta calculate it. " for everi commitment, dem get benefits be had and prices be paid. You decide weda you're committed based on top weda you tink di benefits outweigh di costs. Dat's it. For oda words, na di cause worth di costs?

i wan you to do a little experiment. Picture for ya mind two ledgers. On top one area for dis ledger na di kweshion: wetin be di cost to follow jesus christ, bicos dia na cost? for di oda area for di ledger di kweshion na: wetin does it cost no bi to realli commit to jesus christ? by ya response to dis kweshion you de making a commitment.

wen you commit to christ, wetin do you find up?

1. The right to personal sovereignty.

i'm no bi going to pull any punches. No tok "i'm committed to christ" if you're no bi going to commit. For oda words, it's no longer wetin do i wan, but god, wetin do you wan? it's no bi wetin i wan do, it's god, wetin do you wan me to do?

sight, amazingly, di god who created di universe find each for we di ability to choose how boku influence di almighty god go don for awa live. Im no don to do dat. If im promise to, im fit don make everi one for we puppets, robots or animals, birds or fish. But im make we wit di ability to tink, reason and choose. Im find you di ability, right, to decide. So if you commit to jesus christ, you're say, "god, i'm turning dat right back ova to you. " look for wetin paul say for galatians 2:20, "i don been crucified wit christ and i no longer live, but christ live for me. " dia na a commitment, and im turn ova personal sovereignty.

2. Personal priority for ya resources.

whew! dat one stings! it's no longer wetin do i wan do wit mai taim, it na, god wetin do you wan me to do wit ya taim? it's no longer wetin am i going to do wit mai kudi, but god wetin do you wan me to do wit ya kudi? sight, it's di concept for stewardship. Wen you commit to jesus christ, you're say, "i realize dat god owns evritin

i get and im wan me juss to manage it for juss a little while for im glory. I find up "the mai and mine concept. " it's god. I find up priority for mai resources, any kain resource.

3. Worldly value system.

dis concept na discussed for di "what are mai values?" lesson. "for evritin for di world—the cravings for sinful man, di lust for di eyes and di boasting de kain im get and does—comes no bi from di papa but from di world. " (1 john 2:16) power, pleasure, prestige and possessions, it's no bi dat you lai lai don any for dos tins; it's dat you no spend all for ya attention, ya taim, and ya emotions trying to acquire it. If i commit mai life to christ, i find up a relentless pursuit de kain di world says na important. Now wey's a pretty big price, abi

wen you find up ya personal sovereignty you realize you're no bi di manager for di universe, you're no bi even di manager for ya life. You're going to make god call di shots. Find up di priority for ya resources, di chasing afta di worldly value system.

wen you choose no bi to commit to christ, wetin do you find up?

1. It costs me god's plan for wey dey create use for mai life.

if i decide i'm no bi going to commit to christ, but juss drift through life. I'll get little snatches for pleasure here and dia, but i lai lai com close to tapping into wetin god fit and wan do wit mai life bicos dat only comes from realli walking hand for hand wit di lord.

2. Satisfaction and joy

dos for you wey be maybe advanced for years who don lai lai make dat commitment fit testify you've felt a hollow feeling for a tey. Dat empty or hollow feeling na di lack for satisfaction and joy dat you find up.

3. Eternal life.

you find up a reward for heaven, an eternity for absolute bliss wia i'll lai lai injure, cry, or mourn again. You go lai lai hear di lord tok "well do, gud and faithful servant. Enta now into di joys for di lord. "

once you've mek dat commitment, then charge! i mean charge, dedicate, go for it, and no turn back. "therefore, i urge you, brothers, for see for god's mercy, to offer ya bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to god—this na ya spiritual act for worship. " (romans 12:1)

wen a pilot turns and starts a big 747 down di airport runway, im gets go point for no return. Im na getting plenti and plenti speed, either he's going to get airborne or crash and selfdestruct. I'm fear dem get some for you who've get ya engines revving. Dem get a lot for oda pipo komot dia who aren't even for di airport. Some no even sabi dia's a plane. Are some for you sidon on top life's runway, revving up, building up a little speed,

but no bi e don do speed to get airborne? you've lai lai get off di ground for ya relationship wit christ. You sabi wey concern am, but you've lai lai get off di ground for real commitment to sabi am.

some for you fit don been sidon on top dat runway for years, revving ya engines and say, "one for dis days, one for dis days, i'm going to get committed. One for dis days i'm going to find mai life to god. One for dis days, i'm going to stop living komot mai plan and begin living god's plan. " i realli worry dat someday you're going to tanda before jesus christ wit major regrets say i do such a mugu tin! i invested mai life, i invested mai taim and i invested mai talent for di wrong purpose. How i wish i fit do it ova again. But it go de too late.

wetin be it dat's holding you back from ya commitment? wetin be it dat's dey keep you for di runway, instead for being airborne? na it fear? fear de kain god go do wit you? na it nearsightedness, u dey juss still looking for all dis tins dey you? na it juss pure selfishness? na it a relationship? wetin be it? don dia ever been a taim for ya life tey tey you make ya initial commitment to christ dat you make an unreserved commitment for ya talent, ya taim, ya treasure or ya life without hesitation or reservation. You sight di real wahala na do you wan be a normal, lukewarm, christian di rest for ya life? you no fit be partially committed to christ. Di one tin christianity no fit be na moderately important. You fit hide, you fit dey uncommitted, and basically, send go know—but god knows. Lesson # 1299 - february 2, 1997

chapter 5

setting spiritually-based goals

mission tok

a gud mission tok lai lai changes. It na di constant compass point for ya life, ya business, ya desires or whatever.

one for wey dey create illustrations for dat point go back go di 19th century wen most pipo traveled by horse and buggy. Henry ford na one for scores and scores for buggy makers. As technology brought wey concern di gasoline-powered engine and di automobile, most for dos buggy makers went komot for business bicos dem think dia mission na making buggies. Henry ford identified im compin's mission as transporting pipo. Sight dia go always be a need for dat, taking pipo from point a to point b. Consequently, you sabi di rest for di tori.

too many pipo focus dia life mission dey temporary tins. If you do, you're doomed to failure. Whatever ya mission na for life, it must be permanent. Life na journey, and weda you're 20, 30, 60 or 80 years old, ya life mission suppose be di same. I would implore you to adopt di one dat jesus do – “please god. ”

vision

although one's mission for life suppose lai lai change, one's vision suppose change. Vision na di optimum implementation for ya mission for any point and taim. Vision na ya ideal picture for ya life. It na di picture you paint for ya desired state for affairs ova a shikena for taim, three to five years.

make's go back to awa example wit ford. For 1880, henry ford say mai mission na transporting pipo. How go i best do dat for di next five years? wella, di ansa for 1880 na to build gud buggies. For 1900, im ask dat same

kweshion, how do i best implement mai mission ova di next five years? im ansa na no longer di same. Im vision had changed.

for mai life, mai mission na to abeg god. Now how do i best do dat ova di next five years? di ansa i find go dat kweshion na mai vision tok. Di vision go vary from pesin to pesin. Ya vision go vary reason say ya gifts, ya experiences, ya background and ya opportunities. Ya vision go vary for ya own life from taim to taim. How do i best abeg god ova di next five years? quite frankly, a 20-year-old go probably ansa dat kweshion differently than a 60-year-old. But if you're going to live di maximum life you need 1) a concise mission tok, written down and memorized always reminding you de kain you wan do wit ya life and 2) a vision tok wit a written picture for how you plan be fulfilling dat mission ova di next three to five years.

now bicos we human beings are pass complex creations for di world, a vision na no bi always small small to craft. It fit be pretty hard to look for a total composite picture, write komot a comprehensive vision tok for how we best abeg god come use di gifts dat im get give to we. Perhaps wey dey create way to create a vision tok for ya life na to break life down into some basic areas and craft a piece for di vision tok for each major area.

dem get a number for ways to do dat, but here's one way wey i laik dat appears to work well well. I encourage pipo to construct dia vision tok dey wetin i call di four p's.

passion - how you approach life.

wetin do you love to do? how don god make you? wit wetin kain attitude go you approach life? wen you begin to ansa dos kweshion, you've begin ya vision tok.

purpose - wetin do you wan accomplish for life?

wetin impact do you plan to mek for ya life? how do you wan be remembered once you're dead and gone? wetin contribution do you wan mek to ya immediate community? wetin be ya purpose for life?

pipo - pipo whom you love and how you plan to love dem.

whom do you love? wetin are ya deepest relationships, and how u dey going to nurture dos?

di irony for it na dat businesses do vision statements all weda. So a lot for you de businessmen and businesswomen, but for business all dem wan you to do na craft a vision tok dey ya business. So you tink wey concern purpose, and if you love ya work, you tink wey concern passion. But do you sabi wetin you tend to fashi? you tend to fashi di pipo wey mean pass to you. Here you've get dis picture and all dis goals come from dis vision and dat's why many business pipo end up having no family bicos dem totally fashi wey concern dis critical element for life.

praise - how go you worship god?

i no mean a one-hour assembly on top sunday morning. I mean worship for di truest biblical sense for di word wia biblically, awa entire live suppose be a worship to god, a spiritually sacrificed life. As you craft a vision tok for ya life ova di next three to five years, ask dis kweshion. "how go i demonstrate mai love to am, day for and day komot ova di long haul? how am i going to do dat?" you don ever think wey concern dat?

now if you go ansa dos kweshion and paint a picture for ya life, focusing on top ya passion, purpose, pipo and praise, you're a long way down di road toward di maximum life. Dat's ya vision tok. Hear me, less than one percent for awa population get one vision tok written komot for dia live. But dos who do are lait years ahead for di ones who no. Dem've get di tools for di maximum life bicos dem realli do sabi wia dem wan go. Dem be di ones wey be no bi going to get distracted from dia vision or life's mission.

look for dos four p's again; wen you shape a vision for di passion for ya life, you get excitement. If you no shape dat vision, you get boredom. If you shape a vision for di purpose for ya life, you'll don satisfaction; if you no, you'll don frustration. Wen you shape a vision for di pipo for ya life, you get love; wen you no, you get loneliness. Wen you shape a vision for di praise for ya life, you get destiny; but wen you no, you get hopelessness.

jesus na di ogbonge example. Im mission na realli di same as mine, and i shey, yours. Na im to abeg god, remember? im say, "i've come do di go for am who send me. " im knew exactly wetin im mission na, but no bi only dat. Im knew how im promise to fulfill dat mission. For oda words, im had a clear vision de kain im promise to do while im na for di face for dis earth. Several times, pipo would come am and tok, "lord, com, do dis, do dat or do sontin else. " jesus would tok "my hour na no bi yet com. No try to tell me wetin i need to do. I sabi exactly wetin i need to do. " afta only a three-year ministry, wen im na only 33 years old, im say go di papa for john 17:4, "'i don finish di work you get give me to do. "' if we had been standing dia hearing dat, we for get think, finish? lord, you've no bi even get begin. You're only 33 years old. You've only been for it three years. You've lai lai traveled pass a hundred miles from haus. You've no bi even begun. But im mission and im vision de clear for im mind. Dem de no bi set by oda pipo. Yours no be either.

craft goals

1. Goals reveal ya vision.

from di vision tok for ya life, you begin to craft goals. Goals simply are di tok for faith to accomplish ya vision. Dem be di steps you must take to get to wia you wan go. Goals take you to ya vision and for so doing dem help you accomplish ya life mission. I sabi most for you de no bi accustomed to setting goals and some for you fit even get theological persuasion against dem.

i believe wit all mai heart dat god wan all for we to set goals. Some for you tok, "isn't dat rather presumptive. No jesus teach for di sermon for di mount, 'take no think for tomorrow'? didn't james tok wey we no tok, "we're going to do dis or dat, but only if di lord wills?" yes, so make we examine dos verses. Di verse, "take no think wey concern tomorrow. " (kjb) matthew 6:34 de best rendered as e be so for di para para king james version and di para para international version, "don't worry wey concern tomorrow. " jesus isn't talking wey concern planning. Im's talking wey concern fretting or being overly concern. Im's talking wey concern an insecure spirit dat sits dey and says, "oh no, wetin for di world na going to happun to me?" frankly, if we do plenti planning, vision shaping and goal setting, we would worry less wey concern tomorrow.

di teaching for james "if di lord go," na no bi to tell we no bi to set goals. Rather, it na to remind we dat any vision and goals we strive for suppose seek god's wisdom for na success; otherwise failure go de under im sovereign power. Scripture clearly, clearly, points komot di need for vision and goals. "for without vision, di pipo perish. " (proverbs 29:18) "a discerning man keeps wisdom for see, but a mugu's eyes wander go di ends for di earth. " (proverbs 17:24) do you sight wetin dat says? dat says wen you fail to plan make you juss go off for a bunch for different directions. You've get to get game plan for life. Otherwise, you're juss going to react from one crisis to anoda. You're going be blown from one wahala to anoda. Without vision and without goals, you're no bi controlling ya life, you're life na going be controlling you.

jesus commended proper planning. For luke 14 wen jesus bin de try to encourage "would be" disciples to mek sure dem knew wetin dem de getting into—he say, you've get to count di cost, you've get to tink ahead. For verse 28, im say, wetin man would build a tower without first counting up im kudi and looking for im inventory for supplies? im wouldn't try to build dat tower without knowing im fit clear. Or for verse 31, im say, a king no

go go war for a battle unless im knows im's get e don do troops to do di job. Well-formed goals help we achieve a vision. Dem be gud, dem be necessary.

2. Criteria for gud goals

a. Relevant

dem be relevant to ya life mission and vision. You no juss set goals on top a tangent; you look for di picture for how you wan ya life be three to five years from now and begin to structure di goals wey go get you dia.

b. Specific

a well-formed goal na target dat you fit tell weda you've hit or no bi. Dem be no bi generic or plenti. Dem be very specific.

c. Measurable

dem make you sabi if you're making progress. Now make me find you an example for dos last two, specific and measurable. A lot for pipo go mek new year's type resolution and call it a goal. Dem'll tok, "my goal na be a betta papa." dat's no bi a goal, dat's a wish. How do you sabi if you're a betta papa? dat's no bi quantifiable so it no fit be measured to any standard. Dat's no bi a goal, dat's a wish. Break it down into specifics laik, "i'm going to hug everi pikin three times a day." now dia's a goal. "i'm going to tuck each for mai pikin for bed for night." dia's a goal. "i'm going to spend uninterrupted interaction wit each pikin at least 15 minutes a day. Dia's a goal. "i'm going to pray wit mai pikin everi day." dia's a goal. Dos tins go mek you a betta papa. You fit sabi if you've do dos tins or no bi, dem be measurable. d. Stretchable

do me a favor. Raise ya right hand. Before you put it down, you fit raise it higher than dat? you fit go even higher than dat? do you sight di point for dat little illustration? you lai lai reach as high as you possibly fit. e. Flexible.

dem be flexible make if you reach a goal for ya quest for ya vision, you set di next one. If you fall short and you get no bi failed, you've moved closer to ya vision. So you're constantly adjusting ya goals, focusing on top dat picture dat na three to five years komot for ya life.

biblical model

we go close dis lesson by dey show you a model dat realli capsulates everi one for dis and even plenti. Abraham wan find a wife for im pikin, isaac. Im sends im servant eleazar komot to do dat. (genesis 24)

a. Abraham had a mission. Im na for a strange kontri traveling as per nomad for one reason. Do you remember dat reason? god had come am and say, "abraham, i'm going to mek for you and ya descendants a great kontri; but first, i wan you to pack up evritin you get and shikena!." abraham do, no im? do you sabi wetin abraham's mission na for life? di same tin mine is—to abeg god. God say, "i'm going to do sontin wit you, i

no wan do it here. Pick up and shikena!." abraham say, "god, whatever you tok bicos i live to abeg you." dat's im mission—never changes.

b. Abraham had a vision. Di vision complemented im mission. "abraham na now old and wella advanced for years, and di lord had blessed am for everi way. Im say go di chief servant for im household, di one for charge for all wey he had, "i wan you to swear by di lord, di god for heaven and di god for earth, dat you no go get a

wife for mai pikin from di daughters for di canaanites, among whom i am living, but go go mai kontri and mai own relatives and get a wife for mai pikin isaac. " (genesis 24:1-4)

do you sight di vision? abraham knew god's purpose for am. Im na going be di patriarch for a great kontri. But now for dat to happun, im had one pikin, isaac, and dat boi needed to get marry, make im fit don pikin and eventually dat great kontri fit com wey concern. So here's abraham, for tune wit im mission, and im get a vision. Im fit shape a plan to get isaac a wife wey go along wit god's plan.

c. Abraham established a series for goals. Im send im servant to go find a geh from im haus kontri. Im say, i wan dat geh be one for mai relatives. I wan am be for mai faith no bi one for dis pagan canaanite women. Im must be willing and a virgin. Do you sight all dis series for goals dat abraham had for isaac's wife?

now here na ogbonge illustration de kain no bi to do wen you're shaping ya vision and goals. "the servant (eleazar) ask am, 'what if di woman na unwilling to com back wit me to dis land? shall i then take ya pikin back go di kontri you com from?'" do you sabi wetin eleazar do? im's understood abraham's vision and di goal, but im immediately jumped go di potential problems. Im no de even get begin before im says, "wait a minute, wetin happens if im no de com back?

lai lai jonze di goal-setting stage wit di problem-solving stage. No ever mix dos two. Many pipo no write down a vision bicos while dem be writing it down dem begin thinking wey concern all di problems dat fit com up. Dem tink for all di hurdles. I no get e don do kudi. I no get e don do taim. I'm no bi smart e don do. Dem yan themselves komot for it. If you do dat, you're going to fail wit ya life.

d. Pray constantly. As soon as im gets go di place wia im wan find dat wife, eleazar bows down and im prays. (genesis 24:12) while im na praying, rebekah, di wife be, walks up to am. (vs. 15) im then prays for front for di family. (vs. 52)

wen you pray wey concern ya goals it does two tins. a) it reveals ya desire and b) it tests ya dependence. If i'm no bi praying wey concern goals for mai life, i'm say to god, "god, i no need ya help wit dis. " i no sabi if you've ever think wey concern it, but anything you no pray wey concern, you're dey tell god, i no need you for dis. Ya prayers indicate ya dependence upon god. Boku for ya prayer list suppose be for di goals dat lead you to ya vision dat fulfill ya mission. Dat's no bi all for it. You suppose pray for oda tins, but a big chunk for ya everyday everyday prayer suppose be wey concern di goals dat you get written down for ya life be wetin it fit be.

"then im (eleazar) prayed, 'O lord, god for mai oga abraham, gi me success today. '" dia na a taim for mai life wen i think you couldn't pray for success bicos dat would juss be selfish. But, if ya mission na right and on top target, you get everi need to pray for success.

e. Develop a step-by-step plan. We no go read it, but for verses 10 through 14, eleazar developed a great plan. Sight once you get ya goals, you've get to take a little while and figure komot now how are we going to get dos goals do? one by one, it all bin work komot.

f. Discipline yourself to reach di goals. Nothing na ever accomplished without discipline. Do you sabi wetin discipline na? discipline na no bi pain. Discipline na juss delayed gratification. You find up sontin gud now to get sontin betta down di road. An athlete who go through di discipline for training na find up di comfort wey he for get for dos practice sessions bicos im believe di joy for drag and di joy for possibly winning down di road na worth wetin he's find up now.

eleazar disciplined

a) his decision.

im watched e remain small dat woman whose name na rebekah. Im watched e remain small before im decide if im na di one.

b) his appetite

wen im com before am broda and am broda promise to chop first. Laban say, "here sidon and chop, and then we'll yan. " eleazar say, "nope, i'm no bi going to chop a tin. I wan yan bicos i'm here for a mission.

c) his words

im sofri sofri chose di words wey he addressed to laban, di man who would mek di decision

d) his taim.

"don't detain me, mai oga waits for me, make me go back haus. " if you're going to reach any goals for ya life, it na essential dat you sabi to discipline ya taim. Ya taim na ya life. If you waste ya taim, you're committing suicide.

write komot how you sight ya life three to five years from today. Dat's ya vision. Use di four p's — passion, purpose, pipo, and praise. Then craft di goals dat it go take you to reach dat vision.

some for you de going to wan jump to dos problems dat you sabi are already facing you. No do dat. Dey wit ya mission, shape ya vision and craft ya goals. While you work on top dos goals for ya life, god na working on top you. Im na changing you for di betta.

wia na ya life going? na ya life even headed for di right direction? na it going toward heaven? na it on top a road dat's paved by di blood for jesus christ? e get no oda way go di papa except by am. You don been distracted and need to turn to get back for di road? if you're no bi for christ, a christian, you realli are no bi headed wia you wan go. Today na di day to put ya faith and trust for jesus, confess di name for jesus, kpai to sin and be buried for im blood through immersion for water dey call on top am to forgive you for ya sins.

Lesson # 1300 february 16, 1997

chapter 6

organizing mai taim

wetin u dey trying to do wit ya life? wetin be ya mission, ya vision? how do you wan ya life to look for accomplishing dat mission? you've get to set goals. Goals are dos steps wey de going to lead you go di vision for di accomplishment for di mission and dem must be specific and measurable.

dis lesson na primarily wey concern how to organize ya day-to-day living to accomplish dos goals. How do you manage ya taim? taim na ya most precious asset. For fact, ya taim na ya life. So obviously if you're going to live di maximum life, you've get to mek maximum use for ya taim.

"be very sofri, then how you live—not as unwise but as wise. making pass for everi opportunity. " (ephesians 5:15) do you wetin paul na say? "make pass for everi opportunity bicos taim na precious. " taim na worth far pass ya kudi bicos, unlike ya kudi, you no fit save ya taim. You no fit borrow it, buy it or manufacture it. All you fit do na use it. If you no use it, it's gone. If you no sabi to manage ya taim, nothing else go de managed for ya life. It's dat critical.

how many for you would admit "i juss no seem to don e don do taim to get evritin do i wan do"? i see a calvin and hobbs cartoon wey i get a kick komot for. Calvin turn to hobbs, and im say to am, "i know say god put me on top earth to accomplish some kain tins. As e stand so, i'm so far behind, i'll lai lai kpai. " you don ever felt laik dat? di wahala na no bi having e don do taim. No! go di contrary, taim for many senses na di great equalizer.

unless di world ends today, virtually everi one for we go live all di way through today. If you live all di way through today, it na di one tin dat you get for normal wit everybody else who live through di day. You're no bi for equal strength, age, kudi or opportunity. But dia's one tin all for we who go live through di day don for normal, each one for we go don 24 hours, 1,440 minutes, no bi, no less. Di wahala na no bi wey we no get e don do taim; we all don realli di same how much. Di kweshion na: how do you use ya taim?

u dey disorganized? u dey mismanaging ya taim? a lot for pipo no sabi. Deh get plodded along, or gone for circles for so long, dem realli no realize di goals wey fit be accomplished and di vision wey fit be achieved if dem properly managed dia taim. Evaluate ya situation. Do you recognize any for di following symptoms for taim mismanagement?

1. Messiness.

na ya desk cluttered? how wey concern di top for ya dresser for ya bedroom? some for you sabi exactly wetin i'm talking wey concern; dem be juss filled wit stuff. Wetin wey concern ya make? na it dorti for di for inside and di komot, constantly? do you remember di last taim you had ya oil changed?

2. Forgotten appointments, messages, and deadlines.

now quite frankly, dos tins occasionally happun go di best for we. Dem happun go di most organized for pipo. But for di disorganized, virtually everi day becomes filled wit broken commitments and lame excuses.

3. Lack for productivity.

you find yourself doing small, boring tasks, juss so you'll feel laik you get sontin do. You fit check it off ya "to do list. " dia's a tendency to daydream and to avoid making a real decision, a tendency toward procrastination.

4. Poor or lower self-esteem.

disorganized pipo tend to feel poor wey concern dia work. As very hard to accept di compliments for odas bicos deep down dem sabi dem be realli no bi doing wetin dem fit do. Frankly, poor taim managers often no laik themselves very boku.

5. Poor quality for personal relationships.

if you're a poor taim manager, you fit be finding dat days go pass without ya having significant conversation between you and ya spouse or pikin. Wen you do yan, dos conversations fit be shallow and devoid for self-revelation. Dem fit be un-affirming. You fit sense yourself becoming increasingly irritable for haus. Dis are a main main sign for taim mismanagement.

6. Lack for intimacy wit god.

disorganized christians wan feel close to god, but dem seldom do. A preacher no de need to get up and tok, "now you need to set aside taim for everyday everyday bible reading and personal prayer taim and taim for meditation and reflection. " dem sabi all dat. Dem simply are no bi doing it. Dem excuse themselves by say, "well, dia's juss no bi e don do taim for di day. " but deep down dem sabi it's realli plenti a mata for priorities, organization, and personal go.

do three or plenti for dos symptoms hit haus wit you? how do you manage ya taim for di maximum life? wella i wan share wit you now di seven law for managing ya taim. Beside each for dem i've give you a scriptural example. I tink everi one for dem na as spiritual as it fit possibly be. If ya go, if ya mission na to abeg god, you need to examine dis seriously and apply dem.

law for managing taim

a. Take control for ya taim.

di central principle for all personal taim organization na shikena: taim must be budgeted.

pipo wey tok, "well, i'll get go dat wen i get di taim," dem've blown it right dia. You lai lai don di taim, you mek di taim. Take control for ya taim.

look for wetin david say for "teach we to number awa days aright, wey we fit gain a heart for wisdom. " (psalm 90:12) now wey fit be a little bit poetic for you, but david na say. if you're going to get heart for wisdom, you must sabi wia ya taim go. Betta yet, you must decide wia ya taim go so you fit devote ya taim go di important rather than di urgent.

one for satan's most effective strategies for christians na juss to keep we busy doing less important tins. If satan no fit mek you bad, im'll juss mek you busy. For oda words, im fit mek ya life ineffective by distracting you wit worthless activities.

a few years tey taim magazine com komot wit an wahala and for di cover dia na di headline "the rat race, how amerika na running itself ragged. " it say "what kudi na for di eighties, taim na going be for di nineties bicos we're running komot for taim. " no, we're no bi running komot for taim, we're no bi scheduling awa taim. We're no bi numbering awa day's right. Take control for ya taim.

you don ever noticed wey we tend to find priority to scheduled events ova non-scheduled events? make me explain. If di only tin you've scheduled on top a monday na 2:00 dental appointment, you go revolve di rest for ya day dey dat dental appointment. Wella, i might fit go here, i might fit go dia, but i've get to go dat 2:00 dentist appointment. For oda words, you find priority to scheduled events.

rather than always letting oda pipo determine wetin's important for ya life by scheduling ya taim, you determine wetin's important. You schedule taim for di tins dat you value and dat you wan accomplish. Dat na ya responsibility. Stewardship na critical to living di christian life. You de a steward for ya kudi, abilities, activities, functions and taim. No make pipo take it from you unconsciously. It's ya decision.

b. Start wit god.

wen you begin to take control for ya taim, you mek sure you're spending taim wit

god. "so weda you chop or drink or whatever you do, do it all for di glory for god. " (1 corinthians 10:31)

i wan share wit you an amazing principle. Whatever you turn ova to god, im blesses and gives you plenti for dat tin. I do no bi mek dat up. It's from luke 6:38, "give and it go de give unto you. A gud measure, pressed down, shaken together and running ova, go de poured into ya lap. " whatever you find to god, im gives plenti to you.

now di first tin we tink hope say na kudi. Find ya kudi and im'll find it back to you; gud measure and press down. But it's true for gud deeds juss as e be so for kudi. It's true god go find you plenti opportunities. Remember, jesus also say, "if you're faithful for little, i'll find you di opportunity be faithful for boku. " it's true for ya love. You don found dat komot, yet? you find ya love to god; im'll find love to you for all kinds for ways. If you love oda pipo, plenti for it go com back to you. It's also true for ya taim. If you turn it ova to god, im'll find you plenti taim.

for di gud bin dey version proverbs 10:27 states "reverence for god adds hours to each day. " dat fit be physically no fit, but it na spiritual true. If you begin each day wit taim before di lord, it go amaze you how boku extra taim you'll don for di rest for di day. You no get taim for devotions? get up 15 minutes earlier. No be laik di fellow wey dey so busy swatting mosquitoes, im lai lai drained di swamp. If you wan plenti taim, you've get to begin by find plenti taim go di creator for taim. Make am multiply di taim for ya disposal.

c. Plan ya day dey ya goals.

if you get a life mission to abeg god wit goals, then plan ya day dey dos goals. If you no get life mission, shape ya vision now and visualize how you wan ya life be three to five years from now. Remember, a gud vision covers all di facets for ya life. Be sure no bi to omit purpose, passion, pipo, and praise, otherwise you'll leave komot major parts for life. Now, set ya goals to help you accomplish ya vision. Once you've written dem down, reflect on top dem regularly for ya everyday everyday activities. Dis constant follow-up na wia pipo miss it.

e remain small everybody i sabi don set goals for one taim or anoda for dia live. Most for we don make new year's resolution. Haven't you? even if you lai lai had a life mission, even if you lai lai had a life vision, most for we make a resolution. Dat's a form for a goal.

we set goal and "to do list" and lai lai even thinking wey concern dem. Dat's bicos most for we are activity-driven. We tink for all dis tins we fit and suppose do. Then we begin awa day juss randomly doing dos tins on top dat "to do list," tins wey we believe are gud and necessary. Di wahala wit a "to do list" na say di tins on top dat list vary widely for value. If you're juss going to begin doing tins on top ya list, you fit leave komot pass valuable tins. If make you juss live by ya "to do list," you're no bi purpose-driven, but activity-driven. No tink it's taim management juss bicos you get a list. You must establish priorities.

ya "to do list" suppose reflect ya goals you get written down. Ya "to do list" suppose reflect di realli important tins you wan sight do for ya life. Each day wen you shape a "to do list," try to shikena! toward di accomplishment for at least one goal for each for di four major areas for ya life. Shikena! toward di accomplishment for ya passion, purpose, pipo or praise goals.

dem get all kinds for books komot dia on top goal setting, but dem no tell you pass important tin. Dem tell you how to mek a billion dollars. But none ever mention dat one day you go tanda before god for di judgment.

God na going to call dat billionaire a failure if im no construct im life dey di goals for doing wetin be pleasing to god.

paul say "do you no bi know say for a race all di runners run, but only one gets di prize? run for such a way as to get di prize. " (1 corinthians 9:24) wen you get a race; a sprint, a mile or a marathon, you've get to go for di direction for di clear line. "therefore i no run laik a man running aimlessly. " (vs. 26) you fit picture a hundred yard sprint and some bobo takes off for anoda direction? how ridiculous dat na! but dat's wetin plenti pipo do wit dia live.

ya challenge no go be separating di gud from di bad; ya challenge go de grabbing wey dey create from all possible gud. Na im be say, plan ya day dey ya goals.

d. Focus for di important ova di urgent.

most pipo organize dia live dey two tins: di urgent and di unfinished. We wake up for di morning and we tink: wetin's urgent today? wetin faya do i need to go stomp komot? remember dat which cries di loudest na seldom pass important. You need to prioritize wetin's realli important.

e. Spend taim on top ya strengths.

we've discussed living di maximum life by doing less de kain you're no bi shaped to do and doing plenti de kain you de shaped to do. Do less de kain god isn't expecting you to do, and do plenti de kain you de created to do. One for di sad realities wey concern un-seized taim na dat it tends to flow for di direction for awa weaknesses. We tend to spend plenti taim doing tins de kain we're no bi very gud for. But wit proper planning, we'll spend plenti taim on top doing dos tins than wetin we do well well.

no misunderstand. We need to budget some taim to improve awa weaknesses and to develop skills. But dat suppose no bi be most for awa taim. "for we are god's workmanship, created for christ jesus to do gud work, which god prepared for advance make we do. " (ephesians 2:10) i wan find mai shape and spend as boku for mai taim doing dat which i sabi god wan me to do bicos im's give me strength to trip dos tasks. F. Budget taim for advance.

solomon say "the plans for di diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty. " (proverbs 21:5) dia's a financial implication for dat proverb, but look for it, im says, if you plan ahead, it go profit ya whole life. If you do evritin for haste, you're going to don problems. I get learned di hard way say di principle elements for mai taim need be for di calendar eight weeks for advance for di date.

do you sabi di kain tins wey need be budgeted for advance?

a. Spiritual disciplines.

b. Time wit spouse

c. Time for mai pikin and dia activities

d. Friendships

e. Rest and recreation

dis fit be pass critical for di seven law bicos budgeting taim for advance allows me to take control for mai taim, it allows me to allocate taim wit god, it allows me to focus on top mai goals and it allows me to deal wit di important ova di urgent if i do it ahead for taim. Di plans for di diligent lead to profit, but haste go cause poverty.

g. Busier na no bi betta.

dia na example found for exodus 18. Wen mooses' father-in-law, jethro, com to sight mooses, di leader for di pikin for israel, mooses na judging two to three million israelites from sun-up to sundown. No you sabi mooses na glazed ova by di end for di day? jethro say, "you're killing yourself, and you're wasting dia taim, too. " jethro then taught mooses how to break it down into different divisions.

u dey too busy doing gud tins be effective? u dey spending ya taim as god for get you spend it? u dey laik a hamster on top im little wheel?

i found a little parody for di 23rd psalm ogbonge wahala help you remember be effective no bi juss busy. It go laik dis:

di clock na mai dictator, i shall no bi rest.

it de make me lai down only wen throwaway face.

it leads me to deep depression, it hounds mai soul.

it leads me for circles for frenzy for activity's sake.

even though i run frantically from task to task,

i go lai lai get it all do. For mai ideal na wit me.

deadlines and mai needs for approval, dem drive me.

dem demand performance from me beyond di limits for mai schedule.

dem anoint mai head wit migraines. Mai in-basket overflows.

surely fatigue and taim pressure shall follow me all di days for mai life; and i go dwell for di bonds for frustration, forever.

wetin's sad na plenti pipo live by dat 23rd psalm than di real one. Dem might no bi admit it, but dem do.

u dey tear rubber for juss trying to keep up? u dey tear rubber for being activity driven? i've get great bin dey jesus christ offers you an alternative. Remember wen im say for matthew 11:28-30 "come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden" heavy laden, by di way, juss way taya komot. "all you wey be weary and heavy laden and

i go find you rest. Take mai yoke upon you, and sabi from me; for i am small small and lowly for heart, and you go find rest for ya souls. For mai yoke na small small, and mai burden na lait. " (rsv) i no sabi wetin you tink dat way, but na promise from awa lord. Im says, you come me, get ya go for sync wit mai go, ya life set by mai purpose and it go quit being real hard. For fact, i'll mek sure say it's pass productive and effortless life dat you'd ever live.

pipo, we've don juss e don do taim for dis old world to do god's go. If we try to do plenti, then dia no go be e don do taim. Stop living by a "to do list" and begin living by goals reason say ya life's mission to do god's go. Schedule dos activities to lead you to dos goals. Dat's no bi juss some kain business mumbo jumbo, dat na exactly wetin awa lord do. Im no make everybody else tell am wetin to do. Im knew exactly wetin im promise to accomplish. Im get up early for di morning and went go far place to pray. I tink dat's dey tell we im do dat everi day. Im begin wit god and then im planned evritin dey im life mission and di goals to getting dia. Na spiritual activity no bi some management activity. As god's steward, im compels you to do it.

but going back to matthew 11:28-30 "then jesus say, 'come to me, all for you wey be weary and de cari heavy burdens, and i go find you rest. Take mai yoke upon you. Make me teach you, bicos i am humble and small small, and you go find rest for ya souls. For mai yoke fits perfectly, and di burden i find you na lait. '" (nlt) it go only happun if you're for jesus. Im na di power for life management no place else. If you de no bi for christ today you need to come am, put ya trust for am and obey im gospel. Lesson # 1301 january 19, 1997

chapter 7

right relationships

"the quality for ya life go de for direct proportion go di quality for ya relationships. " now mark dat wella, "the quality for ya life go de for direct proportion wit di quality for ya relationships. " na im be say, you must choose and develop relationships dat support ya life mission, or you'll lai lai live dat maximum life.

you need models to ginger you.

modeling na wey dey create way to sabi. Weda you de learning how to tie ya shoe, drive a make, or operate a personal computer. We sabi faster and betta through examples. No juss tell me how to do it also show me how. Whatever di learning objective, you sabi faster and easier and wit fewer mistakes as long as you get a proper model.

now for di same way, di quickest way to achieve ya goals for life na to find pesin who na already doing wit dia life wetin you wan do and dub it—that's di main main. You find pesin who na already wia you wan be spiritually, intellectually, financially and relationally; look for wetin im na doing and model afta it.

dis na very biblical. Di apostle paul recognized im role as per life model wen im say "join wit odas for following mai example, brothers, and take know for dos who live according go di pattern wey we find you. " (philippians 3:17) im say, "follow mai example, and follow di pattern i've set forth. " di process work dis way, as you follow a model; you for turn become a model. "you became imitators for we and for di lord; for spite for severe suffering, you welcomed di message wit di joy give by di holy spirit. And so you became a model to all di believers for macedonia and achaia. " (1 thessalonians 1:6-7)

jesus openly claimed be a model. John 13, afta im had washed di disciples' feet find dem dat example for humility and service, im say for verse 15, "'i don set you an example dat you suppose do as i get do for you.'" it na human nature to imitate. Wen you de an infant di way you learned to do anything na by copying wetin you see do. Now di wahala wit dat na as per pikin you no get to choose ya models. Make you juss model afta dos wey be closest to you. Na im be say, as per pikin, if you de dey pesin wey dey a successful pesin, you likely developed into a high achiever. If you for di oda hand de dey a negative example, you probably developed a negative attitude. If you see anger modeled for ya haus, no be surprised if you've get a bad temper. Some for we grew up under very positive models and odas under negative, but most for we probably wit a mix.

fortunately, become adult, we fit choose awa models. Na im be say, become adult, no mata wetin ya past na, you fit re-pattern and re-program ya mind. Choose models wey go take ya life wia you wan it be. I no sabi wetin kain student you de for history, but everi great leader for di history for di world don patterned afta a model. General george patton, world war ii hero, na a very, very stringent disciple for alexander di great. Martin luther king's model for non-violent I no go gree waka na gandhi. Gandhi, while no bi a christian, say im modeled im lifestyle afta jesus christ.

models are di fastest way to shikena! forward for ya life mission. Find pesin who na already wia you wan be and follow dat example. Di finewell well wey concern models na wey dem ginger we. Bicos as dem break through barriers and mek accomplishments, we sabi we fit, too.

i love di tori wey concern roger bannister. For years and decades, physiologists, doctors, scientists think say di human being lai lai fit break di four-minute mile. For fact one doctor wrote a big piece for di american medical association journal. Im say, "do you realize dat ya heart would explode and ya lungs would collapse if a human being ever would approach dat fourminute barrier?" then a fellow by di name for roger bannister do am. Afta im tear race di fourminute mile, for inside 15 months, so do 32 oda pipo. Do you sight wetin a model fit do for you?

wey be ya models? wey be di pipo dat you respect, living or dead, spiritually, intellectually and relationally? who u dey modeling ya life afta? if you no get pesin laik dat, you're losing komot. You're going through life wasting taim and energy, trying to sabi lessons dat you no get to sabi firsthand; you fit betta sabi dem through di experience for pesin else. You need models to ginger you.

you need mentors to mold you.

a mentor na counselor, personal coach or trainer; unlike a model, whom you fit or fit no bi sabi personally. For fact, a model fit don lived generations before ya lifetime but a mentor, for di oda hand, knows you well well and cares wey concern you very boku. A mentor na committed to ya growth, to ya goals, and to ya soul. Mentors are extremely involved for ya life. For fact, dem be di pipo god uses for ya life to bring komot wey dey create for you.

di need for mentors de for throughout scripture. Look for proverbs 15:22, solomon say, "plans fail for lack for counsel, but wit many advisers dem succeed." for mai bible, i've circled dos two words, counsel and adviser. No mata how successful you become, you always need a coach.

look on top television dis afternoon and watch michael jordan. Michael jordan get one coach. Steffi graf get one coach. Pat rodgy get one coach. Di actor tom hanks get one coach; dia's a director coaching im everi shikena!. Dat's one for di reasons dos pipo are professionals. If you find successful pipo wey are realli sharpening dia skills, you fit be assured deh get a mentor.

"listen to advice and accept instruction, and for di end you go de wise. " (proverbs 19:20) as i na thinking wey concern dis point dis week, i counted it up and i get had for mai lifetime six different mentors—people who don cared e don do wey concern me and don give me e don do for dia taim to mold mai life. I am going through a life transition as e stand so, i am frankly find a couple plenti. I've lai lai been smart e don do on top mai own to do any job i've ever had for mai life and i go lai lai be. But mentors don taken mai life and molded it. Dem've guided it through di choppy waters to successful conclusions.

folks, dem get pipo for one you who fit be ya mentors and you need to find dem if you no get dem. Dem no get be smarter than you for everi area. Dem juss don be gud for wetin you wan be gud for. Sight di tin bi say na, we're all ignorant, juss on top different subjects, shikena. but dem get pipo komot dia who fit guide you to ya goals.

dem get several ways to benefit.

how you benefit from a mentor.

1. Ask kweshion.

no be fear to ask a kweshion. You sabi di older we get, di plenti we act laik we no need to sabi anything. Isn't dat foolish?

"the purpose for a man's heart are deep waters, but a man for understanding draws dem komot. " (proverbs 20:5) if you're going be a man or woman for understanding, you betta sabi how to get dat bucket down for di deep waters for a wise man's life and pull komot dat water. Di way to do dis na by dey ask kweshion.

i no sabi wey concern you, but i get a relatively standard list for kweshion wey i'm ready to ask for di drop for a hat wen i'm dey wise pipo wey fit mentor me. Wen i'm dey pipo wey sabi sinton i no sabi, who've experienced sinton i haven't experienced, who fit help mold me, i get kweshion laik dis:

- a) "tell me wey concern di greatest decisions you've ever make.
- b) tell me wey concern di greatest successes for ya life and wetin you learned from dem.
- c) tell me wey concern di greatest failure for ya life and wetin you learned from it.
- d) how do you manage ya taim?
- e) how do you handle stress?
- f) what are di books dat you've read dat don make di greatest difference for ya life?"

mark dis wella: di true mark for wisdom na di ability to draw gud counsel komot for oda pipo. Wen you fit do dat, it go help you live di maximum life.

i read a true tori wey concern a fellow who na now preaching, but wen im na an intern for a preacher, im na dia for an entire year. And im say, "you sabi di whole taim i na dia, di bobo get up and preached and im lai lai preached a dud. Everi sermon no bi juss a hit, na im a haus run; im juss knocked it komot for di park. So i went

for dia to interview am and say, 'i've been wit you a year, and you've lai lai messed up, you've lai lai flopped, i wan sabi ya secret.' di preacher say, 'i no get any secrets.' di intern insisted 'no, no, no gi me dat. E get sartin different wey concern you than oda pipo wey don preached, i wan sabi wetin im be.' im say, "really, realli, i do wetin oda preachers do.' and di intern ask, 'no, you tell me, na dia anything for ya life?' di preacher say, 'thirty years tey wen i went into di pulpit, i make a covenant wit god. I told am if im would bless wetin i do, wey i would read di para para testament each week.' im say, 'in 30 years, i've lai lai missed a week for dat commitment.' " wouldn't you hate to don comot without dat deep water for wisdom—staying for di word?

2. Accept suggestions or accept feedback.

"let di wise listen and add to dia learning, and make di discerning get guidance—" (proverbs 1:5) sometimes wen you listen, you're going to don to hear criticism. Dat's okay as long as it's from a gud source one who loves you and who's wise. Dey consider proverbs 25:12, "like an earring for gold or an ornament for fine gold na wise man's rebuke go listening ear. "

folks, wen you're for di presence for pesin who na knowledgeable, pesin you trust and pesin who loves you, hear dem. Weda dem encourage you or weda dem correct you, di feedback na essential go di maximum life. I no sabi how many for you de into rocket guidance; probably no bi all dat many, but wen nasa launches a rocket to go up go di moon or mars or whatever, do you sabi how dem do dat? it's no bi dat small small to do bicos di earth na constantly waka, di moon na constantly waka dey di earth, both dos bodies are waka dey di sun and awa whole solar system na waka through space. How do you keep dat rocket on top track? dem no juss program for di direction and tok, "all right, it's on top na own." dia na computer on top dat rocket dat everi millisecond na feeding back data go di haus computer wey be constantly sending back to correct di course. Dia na constant feedback to keep dat rocket on top course. Dat's di way it na for life and dat's why we need mentors.

now whenever i tok dat to an older christian, im first reaction na, "well, i've make plenti mistakes for mai life, i couldn't be a mentor." you no get be perfect be a mentor; make you juss need be juss one step ahead. We need models to ginger we and mentors to mold we.

3. Partners to propel you.

pipo wey are committed go di same life mission dat you get ginger and spur you toward ya normal goals. Jesus had 12 for dem no im? if you read di para para testament, paul had nine. Everybody needs a partner.

very few pipo ever stop and ask: "what am i going to do wit mai life?" if you've been wey serious wey concern dis study, if you've taken notes, if you get developed a life mission and a life vision and if you've get concrete goals to take you go dat maximum life you de among less than one percent for di pipo for dis kontri. Dat way you de going to don to actively seek komot oda pipo wey wan grew wit you bicos frankly, you're for a class by yourself. You need to find pipo wey go wan help you grew.

solomon say, "two are betta than one for deh get a gud return for dia work. "

(ecclesiastes 4:9) we all need partners. Benjamin franklin had a support group wey he dem dey call, "my most ingenious friends." dat group would get together, write papers, discuss dem, ask kweshion and help each oda. Dem met everi friday night for 40 years. Do you wonder why franklin na creative and ingenious through im late

eighties? do you wonder why im very best inventions occurred afta im na 70 years old? i'll tell you why, bicos im had partners who propelled am. Do you?

thomas edison had a group im dem dey call im "mastermind alliance. " for a six-year shikena dat group com up wit 300 different patented inventions. You tok, "i'm no bi an intellect. " i'm no edison, i'm no franklin, and i don't need a 'mastermind alliance.' " if you're a christian, you need partners to help pull you hand for hand on top ya mission to heaven. God designed im church for part to edify.

"so for christ we wey be many form one bodi, and each member belongs to all di odas. "

(romans 12:5) but look for dis, use di metaphor for di human bodi, paul for essence say, "christians, you de partners for dis journey dem dey call life and you de relating to one anoda laik di heart relates go di lungs, or di arm go di hand, or di neck go di head. You must don each oda to lean on top and draw strength from. "

we're laik a mountain-climbing team going up mount everest. Dem be tied together by dos ropes. Dem be tied for dia safety and strength. Dem be all working wit one anoda to help di team reach di top for di peak. Christians are pulling each oda up. We're relying on top each oda's strengths. Frankly, if one for we falls, then we're all for danger for falling. We are dat interconnected. So if you've get a life mission and, ya life na going somewhere, it realli does mata who you're tied to.

"do no bi be yoked together wit unbelievers. For wetin do righteousness and wickedness don for normal? or wetin fellowship fit lait don wit darkness?" (2 corinthians 6:14) if you get a life mission and you're for partnership wit pesin who no de accept it, but opposes it, for very best dem go resent it, for worst dem go sabotage it. You'd betta choose ya life partners sofri sofri. I'm talking wey concern ya business partners. But plenti importantly, i'm talking wey concern ya marriage partners. You need a partner who go propel you.

4. Need friends who go feel for you.

you need some friends who go support you. "a fren loves everytime. " (proverbs 17:17a) a true fren na pesin who walks for while everybody else na walking komot. Wen oda pipo sight through you, a fren sees you through. Wen you mek a mistake and everybody else wan rub it for, a fren rubs it komot. Dem be consistent, dem hang for dia wit you, and dem support you emotionally, physically and spiritually. Dem encourage you. Dem do wetin di hebrew writer say for chapter 10:24, "and make we dey consider how we fit spur one anoda on top toward love and gud deeds. "

friends are a main main go maximum life bicos you go lai lai rise above di level for ya closest friends. Mark dat wella. It's realli boku laik wetin i na juss talking wey concern wit partners. You lai lai rise above di level for ya closest friends. It's true. Birds for a feather do flock together. So, if you wan soar wit eagles, you no fit run wit di turkeys.

"do no bi be misled: 'bad compin corrupts gud character.' " (1 corinthians 15:33) i wan be very frank wit you wey concern some relationships here, very frank. If you're wey serious wey concern living di maximum life and being all god meant you be, you fit don to break off some friendships dat you get as e stand so. Dat's di true. Bad compin does wuru wuru gud character. One for di reasons dat some for you get stalled on top ya life mission or gone full steam ahead wit god na bicos you're fear de kain wey go do for a relationship. You're fear you go de rejected. You're fear dem go disapprove. You're fear you go de ridiculed or whatever. Do you wan waste ya taim, waste ya life, simply seeking be reign?

simply stated, di nyash line na: "do i send plenti wey concern god's approval or pesin else's?" if you're honest wit yourself and ya ansa na: i realli do send wey concern pesin else's approval plenti, di bible calls dat idolatry. Dat na simply putting pesin else for god's place. We've get anoda word for it today, today we dey define it co-

dependency. Co-dependency na letting pesin else set di goals, di purpose and di ambitions for ya life. You fit call it whatever you wan, di nyash line na it's wrong. It's wrong and it blows di maximum life komot for di water.

some for you fit need to ask some tough kweshion wey concern some for ya closest relationships. You fit need to ask: "are dem helping or hindering mai life mission?" "are dem bringing komot wetin god wan for me?" "are dem drawing me closer to god, or are dem drawing me farther away from am?" wen you get go di last kweshion and if you find dem be drawing you farther away from god, dat pesin na no fren. I no send how long you've sabi dem. Dem be no fren. Then how does one get di right kain friends?" after much much, i tink it's be di right kain fren. You attract wetin you de, you reap wetin you sow. Wetin you find as per fren to odas na usually wetin you get. If you wan taim invested for you, you'll don to do di same, but you need friends, you need godly friends, or ya life no go be wetin it fit be.

5. You need a savior to save you.

jesus say "'for god do no bi send im pikin into di world to condemn di world, but to save di world through am. "' (john 3:17) dis old illustration de explain it succinctly.

if awa greatest need had been an educator, god for get send we a teacher.

if awa greatest need had been new philosophy, god for get send a philosopher.

if it had been kudi,

god for get send an economist.

if awa greatest need had been for entertainment,

god for get send a comedian.

but awa greatest need na forgiveness,

so god send we a savior.

relationships are extremely important. You need models, mentors, partners, friends and brothers and sisters for di lord. But dos realli aren't worth anything if dem be no bi built for di foundation for di relationship dat you get personally wit jesus christ.

"you sight, for juss di right taim, while we bin de still sinners, christ kpai for di ungodly. "

(romans 5:6-8) later for dat same facet, im say "he do dat so we fit don friendship wit god. " one for pass mind-boggling concepts for all di universe na dat god, di creator for evritin wan be mai fren. Im wan put im arm dey me and you and tok, "i love make you juss laik ya closest fren. No, i love you pass ya closest fren. " dat's possible through di love dat jesus demonstrated.

examine all ya relationships. Begin wit ya relationship wit jesus christ put ya faith and trust for am through obedience to im word. Lesson # 1302, march 2, 1997

chapter 8

di art for finishing

dis na di final lesson for "the maximum life - living wit power and wit purpose" series. If you get examined ya mission for life, shaped a vision, set goals and secured right relationships, you need to follow through go di end.

how do you clear di race? scripture several times compares life go race. Paul says for acts

20:24, ". if only i fit clear di race and complete di task di lord jesus don give me. " for 2 timothy 4 paul wrote "i don finish di race, i get kept di faith. " notice di metaphor, no bi juss for running di race, both times paul talked wey concern finishing di race. Life na marathon no bi a sprint.

if you've ever watched a marathon, for na beginning dia's dis huge crowd all clumped together. As di race progresses, di crowd thins komot. Some clear wella, odas no bi so wella, and some no clear for all. Dat's realli pretty typical for life. It's no bi how you begin for life dat realli matters, it's how you clear. Wetin don happun to you for ya life up unto dis point na no bi e remain small as crucial as wetin you do wit ya life from dis point forward. It's how you clear dat's important. If through dis series or oda experiences or teachings you get on top track to live di maximum life, then make me encourage you to live it until you kpai. Clear it and claim di prize. "run for such a way as to get di prize. " (1 corinthians 9:24) you no juss run. You no juss run aimlessly, you no run for mediocrity, if you're going to run, then run for such a way as to get di prize. As we conclude dis series i shey di acrostic clear go help you keep dat course all di way go di clear line.

focus

if you prepared a vision tok for ya life, if you prepared goals to accomplish dat vision, keep dos tins for front for you. Dat's why i stress writing dem down. For ya life you need to regularly sidon and review ya values, ya visions and ya goals then evaluate "how am i doing". Zig ziglar say, "we all need to regularly do a check-up from di neck up. " plato say, "the unexamined life na no bi worth living. " paul say "examine yourselves to sight weda you're for di faith; test yourselves. " (2 corinthians 13:5) and for proverbs 4:26, solomon say "ponder di paths dat you waaka. " dis great statements fit be summarized for "regularly looking for ya values and goals and praying wey concern dem go mek a bigger difference for ya life. " then as you mek komot ya everyday everyday agenda ask di kweshion: na wetin i tok important and reflected for mai everyday everyday taim? dat's di main main go di maximum life for how you clear di race.

intercept distractions

"therefore, tey tey we are surrounded by such a great cloud for witnesses, make we tro off evritin dat hinders and di sin dat so easily entangles, and run wit perseverance di race marked komot for we. " (hebrews 12:1) di writer says for dis race for life to tro off evritin dat na going to weight you down. You no run a marathon for a suit for armor. You no enta a triathlon for an overcoat. You shed anything dat would hold you back, dat would hinder. You eliminate di distractions.

wetin are di tins for ya life dat would distract you from living di maximum life? wella, thousands for tins. It might be di distraction for a) thinking wey concern making kudi; b) wrong relationships; or c) di idea dat busy

de better. Make you juss clutter ya life wit all dis tins. Dem get thousands for tins. But probably di number one tin dat hinders most folks from di maximum life na dia past.

plenti pipo are stuck for dia past. Dem be holding on top go di guilt for dia own wrongdoing. Dem be holding on top go di injure for di wrongs dat don been inflicted on top dem. If either for dis describe you, you're no bi living di maximum life. Make me remind you, if you're going to drive down life looking for ya rearview mirror, you're sure to wreck. You've get to look komot for front for you staying focused and no bi distracted by wetin be comot behind.

"brothers, i no dey consider masef yet to don taken hold for it. But one tin i do:" (look for dis) "forgetting wetin be behind and straining toward wetin be ahead, i press on top toward di goal to won di prize wey be say god don dem dey call me heavenward for christ jesus. " (philippians 3:13) paul na remembered for im great christian service but im na also a great christian persecutor. Paul had plenti to feel guilty wey concern. But knowing im na forgiven by im savior, paul say, "no, no, i fashi di past and i press on top. I no go be manipulated by mai memories. "

now you wey be for christ fit either rehearse dos guilt feelings or you fit release dem. If you're going to live di maximum life, if you're going to clear di race, make go for di grief, make go for di grudges, make go for di guilt. Dem be holding you back, dem be wrecking you and dem be only hurting you. Tro aside ya past, ya fears, ya guilt and ya doubts; intercept dos distractions.

know di reward.

make me ask you a kweshion: why would we wan live di maximum life for di first place? why go all komot for god? why mek di effort? it's realli pretty important bicos if you no fit ansa di why, you no go mek it go di clear line. Di why determines di how long. Di why go determine di effort you put into it. Why go all di gbege we've talked wey concern? why examine ya values? why mek dos goals? why worry wey concern relationships?

1. The purpose - remember dat god put you on top dis earth for specific purpose. "for we are god's workmanship, created for christ jesus to do gud work, which god prepared for advance make we do. " (ephesians 2:10) god don some tins, some gud tins wey he make we to do. Im had a blueprint for we before we bin de ever born. Frankly, if you no fulfill dat purpose it does no bi mata how boku kudi you mek, how many pipo ansa to you or how many magazines you get ya picture for di cover; if you no fulfill god's purpose for ya life, you're a failure. Dat's harsh, but it's true. Anything wey do no bi do wetin it's been designed to do na failure by definition. Di only way you're going to don any lasting satisfaction and joy na by fulfilling god's purpose. Dat's why you mek di effort.

2. The ultimate reward. - "everyone who competes for di games go into strict training. Dem do it to get a crown dat no go last; but we do it to get a crown wey go last forever. Na im be say i no run laik a man aimlessly. " (1 corinthians 9:25-26) do you sight wetin paul says? im says, oh yes, di greek, dos folks for dia little olympics,

dem run for a stephanotis, a crown for victory; a little gold medal or sонтin else. But do you sabi why we run? it's no bi to work awa way into heaven bicos god find salvation awoof to all who claim it through faith, trust and obedience. We wan run for a way dat's honorable go dat dey call all di way go di clear line.

observe, dem get three kinds for motivation for life. E get:

a) internal - wen you ginger yourself.

b) external - wen pipo or tins are catalysts to ginger you.

c) eternal - wen a heavenly reward dat lai lai disappears motivates you. Di main main to finishing di race for di maximum christian life na to keep ya eyes for di clear line and wetin's juss for di oda area for it.

"so we fix awa eyes no bi on top wetin be seen, but on top wetin be unseen. For wetin be seen na temporary, but wetin be unseen na eternal. " (2 corinthians 4:18) paul continues dat think for di next verse, "now we know say if di early tent we live for na destroyed, we get a building from god, an eternal haus for heaven, no bi built by human hands. " (2 corinthians 5:1) do you wake up everi day and tink, i'll mek pass for mai journey for dis tent, but i realli don get mai eye on top dat mansion? di main main to persistence na perspective. Do you wan clear? you've get to concentrate on top ya purpose and no bi ya problems. "obstacles are wetin you sight wen you take ya eyes off di goal. "

incorporate gud habits.

you sabi we get talked wey concern deliberately and systematically choosing ya course for life, and all dat's true. But frankly, some for you, a lot for you no go try di steps go di maximum life bicos you're thinking dat's boku work and boku gbege. But as you become consistent for ya choices and as you become disciplined for ya decisions, it e remain small becomes automatic. For oda words, you develop gud habits. Frankly, life would be too tedious, it would be too overwhelming if we gats break down and analyze everi think and action. Wetin if you gats tink wey concern everi breath, inhale and now exhale, tink how terrible. Wetin if you gats tink wey concern evritin you went through? god no mek we dat way. Im created we cloth creatures for habit.

back go di analogy for a marathon runner. Wen im starts for dat first half-mile or mile, im concentrates on top setting a pace and getting im breathing for rhythm. But afta wey concern a mile, im no get to tink wey concern dat anymore. For fact, im go go miles without thinking wey concern im pace or im breathing. Most for dem make dia minds wander a thousand miles away. Why? bicos deh get developed a pace and set gud running habits. Then dem be de tin be say able to chillax. Inevitably, you go develop habits. Mek sure say you de developing di habits dat lead go di maximum life.

strangle discouragement.

i intentionally use strangle discouragement. Choke it before it chokes you. Galatians 6:9 states "let we no bi become weary for doing gud, for for di proper taim we go reap a harvest if (see dat word) "if we no find up. " i get circled dat "if" word for mai bible. Folks, discouragement na deadly enemy for ya life mission. For fact, i'm

convinced dat discouragement na di greatest weapon dat satan don bicos nothing go render you plenti ineffective plenti quick quick. Di moment you get wey serious wey concern living di maximum life to mek ya life count for god, di devil go try to discourage you, especially early on top. You've get to push past di discouragement to mek it go di clear line.

again use di race analogy, discouragement to me na laik hitting di wall. You don ever heard dat term? runners use di term, "hitting di wall," bicos late for a distance race there's a point wia everi part for di bodi juss begins to scream. It begins to shut down. Di only way a runner gets past di "hitting di wall," part na through pure perseverance, and dat's true for di race for life.

i'd laik to find you a neat little formula, sontin dat would instantly mek ya pain comot and juss tok, "hey no worry wey concern dat. " i no fit do dat. Perseverance na di main main. Pesin once say, "the secret to success na to outlast ya critics. " isn't dat gud? wellington, di great british general, once say, "the secret for di british army's success na to fight five minutes longer than di enemy. " you no measure a man's greatness by im wealth. You no measure a man's greatness by im talent. You no measure a man's greatness by im education. You measure a man's greatness by wetin it takes to discourage am. Great pipo are juss ordinary pipo wit extraordinary determination. Dem juss no quit.

"therefore, mai brothers, tanda kakaraka. Make nothing shikena! you. Always find yourselves fully go di work for di lord, bicos you know say ya labor for di lord na no bi for vain. " (1 corinthians 15:58) fit i paraphrase dat for you? "hang for dia. Hang for dia, god na going to reward you for ya efforts. "

i do wan tok dis though it's no jazz cure, if you're sidon dia as e stand so discouraged and wondering how life fit get any harder, any tougher, or any worse, be assured dat ya savior na sidon right dia wit you. If you're going to live di maximum life, dia go de points along dat life wia god go test ya commitment. Now im no de test it make im'll sabi how committed you de. Awa god knows evritin. Im already knows how committed you de. Im tests ya commitment make you go sabi how committed you de.

how u dey doing wit perseverance? do you clear? how do you handle failure? wen tins no go right, wen you mek a mistake, do you get a little pity parti and tok, "poor me, poor me. " do you complain, do you drag or do you find up? no! you strangle discouragement before it strangles you.

hold on top to christ.

if you cooperate, god go find you di power to hold on top. Im'll find you di power to complete it. You no get to do it alone. Im'll help you if you'll cooperate.

"being confident for dis, wey he who begin a gud work for you go de cari it on top to completion until di day for christ jesus. " (philippians 1:6) "he go keep you kakaraka go di end make you go de blameless for di day for awa lord jesus christ. " (1 corinthians 1:8) no doubt some for you studying dis lesson are going through dey hard times as e stand so. You no feel laik finishing for all. You fit feel laik you're going under. You no fit figure it

komot. God na no bi through wit you. Di race na no bi ova. Im who begin im gud work for you wan bring it into completion for ya life. Hold on top to christ.

"to dis end i labor, struggling wit all im energy, which so powerfully work for me. "

(colossians 1:29) some for you de juss beginning di journey, seriously. Be assured dos who run di race effectively and who head for di prize and who live di maximum life go do exceedingly pass all dem ever think or imagined sake of di power for christ working for inside dem.

you don examined ya life as paul says for 2 corinthians 13:5? you don tested ya faith? u dey beginning for last? u dey wella on top ya way to living di maximum life? or u dey wallowing for discouragement? hold on top to christ. If you de no bi for christ, now na di taim. Put ya trust and faith for am by obedience to im gospel message, im message for reconciliation. Steve flatt ag lesson # 1303 march 9, 1997