

5-Day Devotional: Living With Purpose (Time, Talent & Treasure)

Day 1: The Principle of First

Reading: Exodus 20:1-8; Matthew 6:33

Devotional:

God established the principle of first from the very beginning of His covenant relationship with His people. "You shall have no other gods before me" isn't just about idols—it's about priority.

God desires to be first in every area of our lives because He knows that what comes first shapes everything else. When we seek His kingdom first, everything else finds its proper place.

Consider your morning routine: Does God get your first thoughts, or your leftovers?

The God who woke you up this morning, who gives you every breath, deserves more than what remains after you've given yourself to everything else.

Today, examine what truly comes first in your life.

Where you begin determines where you'll end.

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Day 2: Redeeming Your Time

Reading: Ephesians 5:15-17; James 4:13-17; Hebrews 3:12-13

Devotional:

Time is the one resource we can spend but never reclaim. The Bible warns us to redeem the time because the days are evil. When we know to do good and don't do it, Scripture calls it sin. How sobering to realize that neglecting to visit the sick, failing to encourage a brother or sister, or postponing that divine nudge to serve isn't just poor time management—it's disobedience.

Jesus made it clear: **"I was sick and you did not visit me"** will be said to some who thought they were faithful.

We can binge-watch entertainment for hours but struggle to give God focused time in prayer and study.

This reveals where our heart truly is.

Today, ask yourself: If God required an accounting of your last week's hours, what would it reveal about your priorities?



~ *Minister Kelvin L. Briggs*

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Day 3: Stewarding Your Gifts

Reading: 1 Peter 4:10-11; Matthew 25:14-30; Exodus 4:1-5

Devotional:

"What is in your hand?" God asked Moses.

He asks you the same question today. Every talent, skill, and ability you possess was given by God for His purposes, not merely your promotion.

The parable of the talents reminds us that we will give an account for how we've used what God invested in us.

Some wait for a bigger stage, more resources, or the perfect opportunity before serving. But biblical service begins where you are, with what you have. Your talent shouldn't magnify itself—like a microphone magnifies a voice, your gifts should magnify God's purpose. **If your abilities shine Monday through Friday in your career but remain dormant for God's kingdom, something is misaligned.**

The question isn't whether you have enough talent to serve; **it's whether you're willing to use what's already in your hand.**

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Day 4: Where Your Treasure Is

Reading: Matthew 6:19-21; 2 Samuel 24:18-25; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Devotional:

David refused to give God something that cost him nothing. This principle cuts through our comfortable Christianity.

Where your treasure goes reveals where your heart truly resides—not where you wish it was, but where it actually is. We can deceive ourselves about our priorities, but our bank statements don't lie.

Do you spend more on entertainment, appearance, and comfort than on kingdom purposes?

Can you actually feel your giving, or is it merely leftovers?

The story of Cain and Abel teaches us that God distinguishes between "an offering" and "the firstfruits." Both gave something, but only one gave first and best. God doesn't need your money—He owns everything. But He desires your heart, and your treasure reveals it.

Today, examine your spending: Does it reflect God being first,

or does He get what remains?

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Day 5: Living With Eternal Purpose

Reading: Ephesians 2:8-10; Matthew 25:31-46; Romans 14:10-12

Devotional:

We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works that He prepared beforehand for us to walk in.

This isn't about earning salvation—it's about living out the purpose for which you were saved.

A life can have the appearance of faithfulness—regular church attendance, occasional service, sporadic giving—yet miss God's purpose entirely.

How tragic to stand before the Lord expecting "well done" but hearing instead, "depart from me, I never knew you."

There are no do-overs. If God doesn't have first place in your time, talent, and treasure, your life may be misaligned with His purpose. **This isn't about perfection; it's about direction.**

Are you moving toward giving God your best, or are you content with giving Him your leftovers? The resurrection power that raised Christ from the dead is available to transform how you live today. **Will you let Him have first place?**

~ Minister Kelvin L. Briggs