

# Living a Life of Legacy

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## Context

Here's how I'd like to start this, with a question: How do you view life? Or here's another one- Where are you headed? You know we're living in an age where we're bombarded with what the "perfect" life is worth living. If we chase certain "things" and accomplish them in a certain time period, we've made it. These can come from our parents, our peer groups, teachers, and even our own selves by the way we were raised up. I'd like to call it "voices", shape how we are built and what we want to make out of this life. Now, some of these things are good, I'm not saying all of this is bad or not desirable. Yet, sometimes most of us can lose the whole point of it all. Just live a life so normal, without any goal, without any impact, without any vision. I want us to focus on what God says about living life, how are we to view life from His Perspective, from His Word.

Just want to take share a few points and draw from His Word

## 1. Have a God Dream

Have you asked young people what's your purpose or what's next in life? The typical reply I get — "No idea, bro". More or less, it's something along these lines. We've got so many young people lost and have no clue, no sense of purpose, direction and destiny in our midst. We need to be people with a God dream, vision, goal etc. We could start with this question- where are we headed? Now to the million dollar question, where do I even start? Well, the best source to look is the greatest book we hold in our hands- God's Word.

*Here are a few insights I've found helpful*

- First, being saved (2 Timothy 1:9)- The ultimate purpose in life as God's people in my view is knowing the saving grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus! I think there is no other higher calling than being sons and daughters of the Most High. He paid a great price on the Cross and it's our responsibility to Worship and adore Him in relationship.
- Know that you are called (Exodus 9:16)- it simply says "I have raised you up for this very purpose, that I might show you my power and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." We need to know that our God has written a story for us on this Earth, we're not here by some random accident. The Psalmist says, before the foundation of the World He thought about us. In our Mother's womb,

he was knitting us together. We're here with something significant to do and to finish. Also look at Proverbs 19:21.

- Have a plan (Proverbs 20:5) — the amplified version says, “a plan in a man’s heart is like water in a deep well”. Meaning it is rich in resource, it’s got substance. We’re living in days where everything seems so superficial, we tend to just go with status quo. I believe, we need to be a people and generation with a plan rooted in our hearts, and wise to understand it.
- God works in seasons: Our life is conjured up into the many seasons we journey along as we see in Ecclesiastes 3:1–11. Recognizing the seasons in our lives is crucial. Every season has its place and purpose. Even more, God is in control and orchestrating His sovereign will. We need to align ourselves and walk in obedience to it. That’s what brings the fruit that is due in time.

## **2. Build Character before Gifts, talents...**

If you're wondering what exactly character means, I'd put it this way — it's simply your inside, what you're made of, your thoughts, your personality, in essence, everything that makes you- YOU. Character trumps everything. When words and actions fail, it is your character that counts. In a world where the outside really matters, I think character often gets sidetracked. I've seen so many young people just focusing on their gift and trying to make it known to the whole world. Especially with the power of social media, we've got so many people working so hard to get themselves out there. I believe there is a time for that and it's important, God has given us unique gifts and talents. Now, I'm not saying all of this is wrong. Yet, I think we need to take a step back and look at ourselves. Our mind, what's it's filled with? Our attitude, what's it like? Our moral compass, what's that like? Our soul, what's in it? Moreover, these things are not even spoken about, it's really not a “hot topic” young people like to discuss about either. The bible says in Proverbs 4:23 — to guard your heart, for out of it spring the issues of life. Meaning, look within, build from within, ensure a proper foundation.

## **3. Living by Faith**

Let's just start with what Faith means, simply put- it's trusting in God completely. I bring this point here because there will be times and moments if not many where we're called to take steps of Faith. In order to pursue this God Dream, we're going to have to take some risks, the Christian life and the calling we have will require us at times to go beyond what is logical. There are so many passages we can look at in the Bible with the topic of Faith, but I'd like us to just look at one example from the life of Abraham. I'm sure you've heard the story multiple times. In Genesis 12, God tells Abraham to leave to the “promised land”. There was no reason for Abraham to leave in the natural, yet God had a plan, a purpose, a destiny. I love Abraham's response, he just picks up and starts

his journey. I mean that's some Faith right there! Here's what's interesting in Hebrews 11, Abraham is mentioned in the hall of Faith along with other several names. I do believe it's because of His Life of Faith, trusting God even though it sometimes just doesn't make sense. Something we all can learn and put to action.

#### **4. Be an Example**

This is so very important to me, usually, we think this point is more relevant for older people. While yes it is crucial that our elderly among us to pave the way, it is also important for us as young believers to be an example and inspiration for those around us. I decided to include this point after asking the question to myself who do I look up to? I'm privileged to have some amazing leaders in my life — my own parents, pastors, teachers, CXOs in the workspace. They have taught me some unwritten principles on faith, leadership, ethics, work and so forth. I'm so thankful to each of them. Then it dawned on me, there's not one young person on this list. It got me thinking, we need some young people to rise up and be that example. Would like to share a couple of verses of scripture from *Titus 2:7–8*, Paul writes to Titus to be an example by doing what is good — in your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned. I end this point with Paul writing to his spiritual son in 1 *Timothy 4:12* — Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

#### **5. Endure through the Race**

We need to remember this life of Faith is a journey. It takes us to various places in different stages. We already established that life is divided into many seasons. We all have times of victory, times of great joy and times at the pinnacle. Yet, there are times and seasons that call for endurance. It's difficult, ask any great leader, but I think we need to realize that there's a bigger picture, there is something on the "other side". Even so, God, our heavenly father takes us through these times. Meaning He is with us, and we know that God is working at these moments (see Romans 8:28). It is important that we embrace these times, we learn a lot from these times where no one else can teach us. In Hebrews 12:7, it says to "Endure hardship as discipline". As young people, let's endure through it, at these times, let's encourage one another to keep our eyes fixed on the goal Christ has set before us in this race.

#### **6. Leave something behind**

Have you heard of the word — "Legacy"? Legacy is all about leaving something behind. What are we leaving for others to carry and take it forward to newer heights? We need to remember that the God we serve is a generational God, He is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and He has a purpose for each generation and its people.

This is such a privilege and high calling for each of us. We need to think about this and build our life on this promise. In Hebrews 13:7 — it says “Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.” When we leave this place, we need to ensure that we have a rich legacy for people to learn, look up to and carry. We may be young, but it’s important we build now to this end.

### **In Conclusion**

I’m sure not many of us have even thought of life from this perspective, I hope to have at least opened some eyes through this. It’s not easy, I know, but let’s submit to God, seek him earnestly and pray. It’s with His strength we can live a life Worthy of this High calling.

Let’s make this Life Count! God bless!