

Fulfilling Your Calling

“Do not look down with disdain on what Christ spent so much to achieve for you.”

— Jaachynma N.E. Agu, *The Prince and the Pauper*

In this session we will examine some keys and guard rails to help you in fulfilling your calling

To fulfil is to carry out (a duty or role) as required, promised, or expected.

You will only feel fulfilled in life to the degree to which you fulfil your God-given purpose

Fulfilment does not come through acquiring new things but when the things God has put us come out then we are fulfilled.

2 Timothy 3

But mark this: there will be terrible times in the last days.

1. We must view things from God’s perspective.

- **Do you see as terrible that which God labels as terrible?**

²People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,³without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good,⁴treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God –⁵having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people.

- **Rappers today create lyrics worshipping themselves**
- **They have a form of godliness. This makes it more self-deceiving.**
- **Lovers of pleasure (philos hedone)**
- **God calls us to carry His heart and perspective.**
- **We will not be able to fulfil His purpose if we don’t at the same time carry His heart and perspective.**
- **God calls us to re-examine our alliances.**
- **What is your role in opposing that which is destroying families today?**
- **Keep hating what God hates and loving what God loves.**
- **Keep tracking with God if you want to fulfil your purpose.**

“Invest maximum amount of time into refining your gift and become best at what you were called to do and you will be surprised how easily and quickly you will rise to the top.”

— Sunday Adelaja,

⁶They are the kind who worm their way into homes and gain control over gullible women, who are loaded down with sins and are swayed by all kinds of evil desires,⁷always learning but never able to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁸Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so also these teachers oppose the truth. They are men of depraved minds, who, as far as the faith is concerned, are rejected. ⁹But they will not get very far because, as in the case of those men, their folly will be clear to everyone.

2. We must embrace the truth, not oppose it.

- **Are you acquiring knowledge but not coming to a knowledge of the truth?**
- **We must not compare ourselves to those who seem successful on the outside.**
- **Their folly will become clear.**
- **Are you clear about the truth?**
- **Do you know what you believe and why or can you be swayed?**
- **Are you gullible?**

- **You need a strong anchor of the Word in order to fulfil your calling.**

3. We must get relevant mentorship.

A final charge to Timothy

¹⁰You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, ¹¹persecutions, sufferings – what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch, Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. ¹²In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

- Pursue your mentors
- Study their way of life
- Read their biographies
- Examine how they overcame difficulties
- Explore God’s dealings with them
- Purchase their books and audios and teachings
- Examine their character
- Ask them questions about these things
- Don’t assume you know them more than you really do
- Don’t assume it was easy for them (have the right expectations)

If you want me to mentor you in pastoring there are some powerful questions you could ask me e.g. what would you do differently?

4. We must become convinced of certain things.

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know **those from whom you learned it,**

- **It’s one thing to know about healing, it’s quite another to be convinced about it.**
- **It’s one thing to know about tithing, it’s quite another to be convinced about it.**

If you want to fulfil your calling you must be convinced of certain things. Investigate until you are convinced. Don’t sit on the fence.

5. We must know and use the Word.

15 and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God[a] may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

- **Starting young helps (Infancy = Brephous, newborn or unborn child).**
- **Use the Word to teach, rebuke, correct, and train in whatever sphere you are called.**
- **Always read the word knowing it is God-breathed.**

2 Timothy 4

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: ²preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage – with great patience and careful instruction.

- 6. **We must be agile in how we allow God to use us**
 - **Be prepared and open for God to use you in different contexts**

“Invest your life into what you were born to do. Make every minute of your life count. Redeem every minute of your life and convert it into greatness.”

— Sunday Adelaja,

³For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather round them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.

⁴They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

7. We must feed on the right spiritual food

- **What do you itch to hear?**
- **What do you NEED to be hearing right now?**
- **Are you one of the teachers or one of those with itching ears?**

⁵But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

8. We must know and fulfil the duties associated with our assignments.

- **An assignment often comes with a post in the spirit.**
- **Each post has duties.**
- **Just as a watchman or security guard has duties so does a mother and a pastor. I can't say I want to be a pastor but the kind who doesn't teach the people.**
- **Fulfil the duties God has given you not the ones other people or your own guilt burden you with.**

“Your greatness is directly proportional to how much time you are ready to invest into fulfilling your purpose.”

— Sunday Adelaja,

⁶For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

9. We must know our race and finish it

- **Are you running your own race?**
- **What will it look like when its finished?**
- **Sadly, many people are running multiple races simultaneously. This disqualifies you. You can't run the Iron Man and the Comrades at the same time. The training is also different. What happens if you run the Comrades like a sprint? There is what's called race pace. Your race pace various based on the type of race.**

⁸Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day – and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.⁹Do your best to come to me quickly, ¹⁰for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹Only Luke is with me.

10. We must not desert our posts.

- **Do you know what would cause you to desert your post?**
- **Call it what it is; loving the world? Discouragement? Fear? Ignorance? Often we label it in a manner that is socially acceptable.**

Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry.

11. We must know to whom God has assigned us.

- **Things can change, as in the case of Mark.**
- **Are you useful to the people you have been assigned or are you a burden?**

¹²I sent Tychicus to Ephesus. ¹³When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments. ¹⁴Alexander the metalworker did me a great deal of harm. The Lord will repay him for what he has done. ¹⁵You too should be on your guard against him, because he strongly opposed our message. ¹⁶At my first defence, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. ¹⁷But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Do you understand God's purposes in the midst of distractions and trials?

Are God's purposes the same as yours?

Are there certain people you should be on your guard against? Are you guarding against the right people? Are you open to people you should be guarding against? Are you guarded against your pastor when you should be open?

Are there certain people you should release and cry out for their mercy?

Are you warning your disciples with regards to their internal and external barriers?

Final greetings

¹⁹Greet Priscilla^[a] and Aquila and the household of Onesiphorus. ²⁰Erastus stayed in Corinth, and I left Trophimus ill in Miletus. ²¹Do your best to get here before winter. Eubulus greets you, and so do Pudens, Linus, Claudia and all the brothers and sisters. ^[b]²²The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you all.