

Introduction:

After realizing where and how God wants to use you, what would you do with the time you have left? Most Christians who are sincere about their relationship with Jesus will say, "Now that I know where I belong, I want to be mightily used by God!" "I would like to have great exploits with God." If that's your answer, then I have good news for you. The Lord desires to use you! The Lord desires to use you mightily from this moment on into every day of what's left of our life.

I. God desires to use you in ways He wants you to imagine.

- A. There is nothing more important, after you come to know Jesus Christ, than figuring out God's dream for your life. His plan for your life.
 - 1. What have you been imagining? What have you been imagining in your mind's eye of how the Holy Spirit will use you to minister to the lost?
 - 2. It's only when you discover why God made you and what he wants you to do that life makes sense.
- B. Jeremiah 29:11 is one of the most often-quoted verses in the Bible. You've seen it, haven't you?
 - 1. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."
 - 2. What plans is He talking about we can look forward to? What future is He referring to? Father explains it in the next 2 verses.
 - a. *"Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.*
 - b. *You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."*

II. God desires to use all of what's left of your life to reach the lives of many who are lost without Him.

- A. God desires to be the Lord over what's left of your life.
 - 1. It's not too late to walk into your calling. You may have been delayed but you are not denied. It's not too late to walk into your purpose.
 - 2. If you know you were called to serve in a specific area now is the time to do it. If not now, when?
 - 3. Some of you have unfinished assignments. And God is waiting to use you to complete those assignments.
- B. Unfinished Business.
 - 1. In the Book of Joshua chapter 14, Caleb makes an unexpected request. They are dividing the territories which the tribes of Israel inherited in the land of Canaan and Joshua has succeeded Moses as the leader of Israel.
 - 2. Joshua 14:6-13 (AMP) reads this way: *"Then the [tribe of the] sons of Judah approached Joshua in Gilgal, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said*

to him, "You know the word which the Lord said to Moses the man of God concerning me and you in Kadesh-barnea. I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the Lord sent me from Kadesh-barnea to scout the land [of Canaan], and I brought a report back to him as it was in my heart. My brothers (fellow spies) who went up with me made the heart of the people melt with fear; but I followed the Lord my God completely. So Moses swore [an oath to me] on that day, saying, 'Be assured that the land on which your foot has walked will be an inheritance to you and to your children always, because you have followed the Lord my God completely.' And now, look, the Lord has let me live, just as He said, these forty-five years since the Lord spoke this word to Moses, when Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, [b]look at me, I am eighty-five years old today. I am still as strong today as I was the day Moses sent me; as my strength was then, so is my strength now, for war and for going out and coming in. So now, give me this hill country about which the Lord spoke that day, for you heard on that day that the [giant-like] Anakim were there, with great fortified cities; perhaps the Lord will be with me, and I shall drive them out just as the Lord said." So Joshua blessed him and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh as an inheritance."

3. Caleb declares that he has an unfinished assignment and he believed he was ready to complete that assignment. is as strong and ready for battle now as he was when he stood with the nation of Israel on the threshold of the promised land 45 years earlier.
 - a. In his statement, Caleb indicates that his strength did not come from within himself but from the fact that "The Lord has kept me alive . . ."
 - b. Caleb knew that his strength and vitality was a gift from God and he gave God all the credit.
 - c. For some of you, your assignment is still waiting for you. God still desires to use you.
 - d. But Caleb also knew that God would not just hand Hebron to him on a silver platter.
 1. Go get your mountain.
 2. Go and take your assignment.
 3. God desires to use you and fulfill the plans He's made for your life.
 - e. I have several friends who are senior to me in age who are stirred up and determined for God to use them. They realize that it's never too late for God to use you. Even until the day you breathe your last breath.

III. Best practices to be used greatly by God.

- A. When we look at Scripture, we see many vessels that God used for special purposes:

1. We have the likes of Abraham, Moses, Ruth, Hannah, David, Mary, the disciples, and Paul.
2. God divinely chose them for a special ministry, but they also made decisions that enabled them to be special vessels.
3. What are qualities of the people God uses greatly?
 - a. **They repent** when they're wrong. Matthew 4:17 "From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."
 - b. **They pray for their enemies.** Matthew 5:44-45 "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust."
 - c. **Their prayer life is a lifestyle.** Luke 21:36 "But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."
 - d. **They make disciples.** Matthew 28:18-20 "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

IV. God has mightily used unseen and unheard people.

- A. These are the people behind the scenes who just want to serve.
 1. They don't want the spotlight.
 2. They don't need accolades.
 3. They serve because that's what they are called to do.
 4. "There is no hierarchy in the gifts of God.
- B. The ministry of the Church does not rest on status, but on service.
 - a. Status does not impress God. Status does not move God. The only thing that impresses and moves our God is faith, and our willingness to serve Him by reaching the lost.
 - b. So many believers think that you must have status before God will really use you and do something for you.
 - c. No gift that serves others is small.

V. Unsung Servants.

In the book of Chronicles, the priest Ezra records the lineage of the twelve tribes of Judah. The descendants of Judah in First Chronicles chapter 4. And it reads this way:

1. 1 Chronicles 4: 23 (AMP) These are ancient words (genealogical records).

23These were the potters and those who lived [among plantations and hedges] at Netaim and Gederah; they lived there with the king for his work.”

2. These potters were sons of Shelah, who was the third son of Judah. They lived with the king to serve him with their skills and talents in ways that would enhance the lives of those who sought to visit and dine with the king.
 - a. To make pots.
 - b. Plant gardens. Others were the potters making the storage jars bearing the royal seal of the king.
 - c. To create and supply dinnerware, cups, saucers, and plates.
- A. God saw the importance of these potters.
 1. Among the important people of the tribe of Judah.
 2. They were considered just as important.
 3. They desired to be used by the king.
 - a. They were unseen.
 - b. They were unheard.
 - c. They were significant.

Conclusion

- God has set you up for success. If you are a new believer, or if you have been walking with Jesus for many years, God wants to see you moving in your optimal potential, living, and moving toward your true destiny in Him.
- If you are not saved, if you don't know Jesus, if you have been hesitant to allow Jesus in your heart, now is the time. Today. God wants to see **YOU** moving in your optimal potential, living, and moving toward your true destiny in Him.