

Unleashing the Genius of God in You #2

The Genius of Discovery

God formed you for a purpose, as in **Jeremiah 1:5**. God knew Jerimiah's purpose and calling in his mother's womb, "***Before I shaped you in the womb, I knew all about you. Before you saw the light of day, I had holy plans for you.***" God looks at us and sees greatness. His plans are good for you. We are His masterpiece and He rejoices over us. In this lesson we discover, are able to embrace, and begin to develop our calling and purpose.

In the Bible we find how ordinary, broken people stepped into their genius when they discovered their call, this is when they stepped into the genius God gave them. Taking a look in the Bible, we see different characters who possess anointings from God. Pastor Dale shares in this sermon the vision he had. Pastor Dale in this vision witnessed a yard sale which contained robes and coats. Each robe or coat had names of church members on them, as if to say all you need to do is to *claim* (or *reclaim*) your robe and walk back into your anointing. **When you ask God for your anointing, ask for a double portion, as Elisha did.**

Take a minute to look over the following list of Bible characters and their anointing. **Circle the person's/character's anointing** you feel you need to claim, or add another Bible character of your own, write down this name and share why you chose this character.

- **Gideon** - Leadership and strategy
- **Hannah** - intercessor for prayers which give birth
- **Bazalel** - artistic creativity to bring design and beauty in the tabernacle
- **Deborah** - a spiritual mother, who calls out greatness, and potential in others, breaks boundaries, and travels into unmarked territories leading others to God
- **David** - writes songs, poetry, and psalms with instruments and brings worship to change atmospheres
- **Nehemiah** - works in the realm of the government, an engineer of the environment one who changes history
- **Joseph** - interprets dreams, brings creative solutions to the world around, and offers solutions in times of crisis
- **Barnabas** - supports someone else's call, or supports other leaders
- **Solomon** - brings wisdom, organizes, and is able to make decisions
- **John the Baptist** - initiates breakthroughs, plows through traditions changing cultures
- **Aquilla and Priscilla** - teaches and mentors

Choose a character you closely relate to - tell why you feel this character's anointing may be the anointing God wants you to claim and walk into for His glory.

Pastor Dale explains to us that our purpose and calling need to be **understood**. A call from God is for everyone and is not held back by God. God gives us gifts freely. God gives us gifts, gifts are not something you must be worthy of, you cannot lose your gift from God. **Romans 11:29** plainly states to us, "**God's gifts and calling are under full warranty, never canceled, never rescinded.**" Our calling is a gift given to us by God which is much different than what a career is. People often shrink back from their calling, or might think they do not have a calling. *Why do you think this happens?*

Differences between a career and a call, which ones stand out to you?

Career

Something you do

Something you retire from

Is an avenue for God

Succeed and fulfill obligations for your life

Calling

How you Make a Difference

IS never finished until you die

Your career opens the doorway for your call and purpose

This is a legacy, left to influence others and beyond your lifetime

Pastor Dale reflects in this sermon that when we find and discover our genius we will live in **His calling for our life**. Below is a list of ideas to consider when discovering your Genius. Which one stands out to you? Why does this idea in particular stand out to you?

1. Painful and disappointing events in our life are the things God uses to weave His greater purpose
2. God's fulfillment in His purpose gives us joy when we do His will (this is the desire of your heart)
3. "When you aim at Heaven you get Earth thrown in too." C.S. Lewis (seek the Kingdom of God first)
4. When you find your anointing or 'sphere' in God, you multiply your potential because this is the place God's power uniquely flows through you
5. When you begin to serve in your gifting, you find your place on God's team. This is the place you connect to the Body of Christ and will make your biggest difference

We've learned four keys to discover our unique gifting and calling in this sermon:

- A. **Focus your life on fulfilling a purpose**, not achieving a lifestyle. Sometimes God reveals things in us gradually as we press forward to the next thing to make a difference for God's calling. As we press forward in our calling and prompting, we obey Him. When you hear God's prompting and obey Him, with each prompting you end up in your purpose.

>Can you share something from your own journey towards understanding and discovering your purpose? How did focusing on God's will and following His promptings lead you towards confirmation what His call and purpose is for your life?

- B. **Make a careful exploration of your gifts and calling.** How God made you speaks to how **He plans** to use you. Everyone has a **SHAPE**. We use the word **SHAPE** as an acronym for:

- **Spiritual gifts**
- **Heart passion and drive**
- **Abilities that you do uniquely well**
- **Personality traits that distinguish way you are most effective in helping others**
- **Experiences** the ones which were either good or bad gives us the ability to relate and help others, those who may be experiencing the same or similar experience.

*What would you say is one thing unique about your **SHAPE**_____?*

- C. **Be careful to not be distracted or suppressed by the enemy.** Be aware of this tactic. Have you ever found yourself suddenly running towards something, which later proved to be the wrong end zone or finish line?
- D. **Know and learn the difference between an owner and a steward.** When we discover our purpose, our outlook is to look at things in the light of eternity. We become managers of ourselves for God, rather than an owner of our own time, treasure and talent. We give all to God, everything belongs to God. Everything is a gift from God and is meant to be used for His glory and to show others the goodness and salvation of God. Our gifts are the doors in us to let others see God's mercy flowing through us to them. **Don't bury your gifts to those who need your gifts the most.**

We understand our stewardship when we know that **everything** is a gift, even the next breath we take is a gift. Our ultimate destination is to stand before the Lord and have Him ask us what we did with all He gave to us. The pinnacle of all of our lives is to hear God say, "**Well done, good and faithful steward.**"

Take a minute to pause and answer these questions with the Lord:

- *If you were to **review your life** today, where would you say you have been able to be a good steward?*
- ***Where** have you struggled in your life to be a good steward?*
- ***How** would your life look if you took an area of struggle to manage that area, like- time, treasure, or talent in order to be more faithful to the Lord?*

Scripture References:

Ecclesiastes 3:11

Jeremiah 1:5

Galatians 1:15

Ephesians 2:10

I Corinthians 1:27

Romans 11:29

I Timothy 1:12-13

Acts 13:36

Romans 8:28

Philippians 2:13

Psalms 37:4

Matthew 6:33

I Corinthians 12:27

Luke 2:49

Acts 20:24

Galatians 6:4-5 (MSG)

I Timothy 4:14

I Corinthians 4:7

Matthew 25:23