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Multiply Your God-Given Potential

REFLECT

1. According to Ephesians 2:10, God planned things for you to do before you were born. Have you sought to know these plans? What has hindered your discovery of them?
2. You were born on purpose for a purpose. In light of Stan's story, how do you view your gifts and abilities? Do you view them as important for building God's kingdom? Or have you, like Stan, failed to connect the dots?
3. Doing the will of God strengthens us. Is what you're doing with your life strengthening you? Are you passionate about the work you're doing? If not, why do you lack fulfillment?

REFLECT

1. Biblical grace is not only God's gift of salvation, but His empowerment for our lives. How have you viewed God's grace? After reading this chapter, how has your understanding of grace changed?
2. Your destiny, which God prepared for you, is beyond your natural ability. Why did God design it this way? How can you access God's empowering grace that's available to you in abundance?
3. Do some, many, or even all of God's children receive gifts? What gifts and abilities have you received? How do you see these gifts as beneficial to others?

REFLECT

1. Scripture warns us to be honest in our evaluation of ourselves. This assessment should be done in *real time*. I shared the story of when I tried to start a ministry before its time. How can you avoid making the same mistake? What are you presently gifted to do in this season?
2. Happy and blessed is the person who knows their gifts and operates in them. Miserable and stressed is the person who tries to operate in someone else's gifts. Have you ever been tempted to pursue an area of gifting that's different than your calling? If so, why?
3. Our gifts aren't just for the gathering of saints in a building, but also for our specific areas of influence. How can you view your everyday life as vital to building God's kingdom? In what ways can you use your vocational gifts for kingdom purposes?

REFLECT

1. Before reading this chapter, did you see yourself as a steward? Why or why not?
2. The gifts you've been given are not for you; they're to be given to others through you. In other words, you carry what God wants others to have. With this in mind, why is it important to steward your gifts faithfully? What's at stake if you neglect your stewardship?
3. At any given time, you can choose to use the gifts God has given you in one of three ways. You can use them to build the kingdom. You can use them to benefit yourself. Or you can neglect them—not using them at all. How are you using your gifts? What changes should you make regarding the way you steward what God's given to you?

REFLECT

1. There's one attribute that clearly defines a steward: faithful. How have you viewed faithfulness? After reading this chapter, how has your perspective changed?
2. Eternal multiplication is not achieved in our own strength. It's a result of cooperating with God's grace. Are you attempting to multiply your gifts in your own strength? How can you multiply your gifts from a posture of rest, rather than of striving?
3. God is not against abundance; He's against abundance having us. Why do you think it's important to God that you multiply your gifts? How can the multiplication of your gifts honor God and impact others on a greater scale?

REFLECT

1. Do you have an outlook that encourages multiplication? Or have you carried more of a maintenance mentality? Are you living comfortably and just getting by, or are you continuing to challenge yourself?
2. Multiplication isn't realized by being lazy and passive. Not only are we to work hard, but we are to be enthusiastic in our labor. Would you consider yourself a hard worker? Are you enthusiastic about your work? Have you coasted when you achieved a level of success you viewed as sufficient or better than others?
3. When I began writing, I experienced frustration, rejection, and discouragement; but breakthrough came as I remained obedient to what God had told me to do. How are you growing in the grace that's on your life? How does my story encourage you to push through frustration and discouragement?

REFLECT

1. Frustration or discontentment can often act as a catalyst to stir our faith for multiplication. Is God challenging you to grow in a certain area of your life? If so, how are you responding to His promptings?
2. If discontentment stems from what you lack personally, it is displeasing to God. On the other hand, if discontentment focuses on the needs of others and building the kingdom, it's pleasing to Him. What has been the focus of your discontentment?
3. Consider my story about giving away 250,000 books. Why is faith vital to laying hold of God's promises and reaching new levels of multiplication? Why is it important that you obey God, even when others don't agree with you?

REFLECT

1. When we look for God's provision or intervention to occur, it often comes in the form of a strategic idea. How have you seen your circumstances change through a God-inspired idea?
2. Receiving wisdom is the most important thing you can do. In what area of your life do you need wisdom? How are you to approach God in order to receive His wisdom?
3. A strategic idea is a gift from God and has the potential to open us to another realm of effectiveness and empower us to multiply. Once an idea is received, what next steps are required of you?

REFLECT

1. God has put His love for people in your heart, which should position you to *give* and *serve*. In what ways do you presently serve and give to others? What are some creative ways you can grow in the areas of giving and serving?
2. A wise giver sees an offering not only as a gift of love and service, but also as an *investment*. Through your giving and serving, what type of return on your investment can you expect? How does your attitude toward serving and giving change when they're viewed as an investment?
3. You will be tested in both your *charisma* and *financial giving*. During these tests, you'll experience moments when your harvest will seem delayed and your labor unproductive. When you're tempted to give up, what should your response be? How do you keep yourself encouraged?

REFLECT

1. Jesus identifies serving as the path to true greatness. How did Jesus demonstrate serving? What did His serving result in? How does God's path to greatness differ from the world's?
2. Recall Rebekah's story. What were the remarkable traits involved with her serving?
3. You can multiply selfishly, but your impact will not be eternal. What is the difference between serving to *get* and serving to *give*? Why is it important to serve unselfishly?

REFLECT

1. A father is one who brings leadership, nurture, and culture to an individual or organization—and they can hold a variety of positions: CEO, pastor, small group leader, department leader, boss, teacher, coach (these are just a few examples). Who are father figures in your life? In what ways have they been a father to you?
2. A faithful son or daughter will multiply the ways of his or her father. Why is it important to imitate the ways of your leaders? How does this ensure that there aren't disconnects in vision, methods, and culture?
3. Multiplying what belongs to another requires that you reproduce yourself. Are you finding others with similar gifts and imparting to them the wisdom and ways you've learned? Are you raising up others to do what you are presently doing? If not, how can you begin to do so?

REFLECT

1. Fear is always fueled by an ignorance of the character of God. How has an incorrect view of God's nature affected the way you've stewarded your gifts and calling?
2. An authentic relationship with God is made possible when you give yourself fully to Him and live obediently to His Word. Is there any mindset or behavior that is hindering your relationship with God?
3. There's a big difference between *being afraid of God* and *having the fear of the Lord*. What is the difference? Why is having the fear of the Lord critical to knowing God intimately?

REFLECT

1. Fear has been the thief of many dreams. It's sneaky, seeks to gain control, and if not properly dealt with, it will alter your destiny. In what ways has fear attempted to alter your destiny?
2. Timothy was warned not to neglect his gift. Why is it dangerous to ignore your gift? From the examples listed, what reason for neglect resonated with you the most? Why?
3. Intimidation is a spirit. In what ways have you encountered this spirit? How must this spirit be overcome and defeated?

REFLECT

1. There are no formulas to discover your calling. Even though there are various resources that can help you discover what you're good at, locating your calling and gifts will require God's involvement. Have you sought God for insight into your calling and gifts? What has He shown you?
2. In our pursuit of our calling, we should ask ourselves—and others—questions. This is all part of the process. Find people you trust and ask them what they see on you and in you.
3. It's not enough to merely possess potential—it must be realized. Why is it important that you develop your gifts? What happens when your gifts are intentionally grown and developed?

REFLECT

1. The anointing is what fuels our God-given abilities to multiply. How is the anointing cultivated? What difference does the anointing make to the outworking of your gifts?
2. How can the anointing remain fresh in your life? What happens if the anointing is taken for granted?
3. What arena of life are you called to in which you will make a difference? In what ways could the anointing distinguish you within that particular sphere of influence?

Appendix
Salvation, Available to All

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved.

—Romans 10:9–10

God wants you to experience life in its fullness. He’s passionate about you and the plan He has for your life. But there’s only one way to start the journey to your destiny: by receiving salvation through God’s Son, Jesus Christ.

Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, God made a way for you to enter His kingdom as a beloved son or daughter. The sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross made eternal and abundant life freely available to you. Salvation is God’s gift to you; you cannot do anything to earn or deserve it.

To receive this precious gift, first acknowledge your sin of living independently of your Creator, for this is the root of all the sins you have committed. This repentance is a vital part of receiving salvation. Peter made this clear in the book of Acts, on the day that five thousand were saved in the Book of Acts: “Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out” (Acts 3:19 NKJV). Scripture declares that each of us is born a slave to sin. This slavery is rooted in the sin of Adam, who began the pattern of willful disobedience. Repentance is a choice to walk away from obedience to yourself and Satan, the father of lies, and to turn in obedience to your new Master, Jesus Christ—the One who gave His life for you.

You must give Jesus the lordship of your life. To make Jesus “Lord” means you give Him ownership of your life (spirit, soul, and body)—everything you are and have. His authority over your life becomes absolute. The moment you do this, God delivers you from darkness and transfers you to the light and glory of His kingdom. You simply go from death to life—you become His child!

If you want to receive salvation through Jesus, pray these words:

God in Heaven, I acknowledge that I am a sinner and have fallen short of Your righteous standard. I deserve to be judged for eternity for my sin. Thank You for not leaving me in this state, for I believe You sent Jesus Christ, Your only begotten Son, who was born of the Virgin Mary, to die for me and carry my judgment on the Cross. I believe He was raised again on the third day and is now seated at Your right hand as my Lord and Savior. So on this day, I repent of my independence from You and give my life entirely to the lordship of Jesus.

Jesus, I confess you as my Lord and Savior. Come into my life through Your Spirit and change me into a child of God. I renounce the things of darkness that I once held on to, and from this day forward I will no longer live for myself. But by Your grace, I will live for You who gave Yourself for me that I may live forever.

Thank You, Lord; my life is now completely in Your hands, and according to Your Word, I shall never be ashamed. In Jesus's name, Amen.

Welcome to the family of God! I encourage you to share your exciting news with another believer. It's also important that you join a Bible-believing local church and connect with others who can encourage you in your new faith. Feel free to contact our ministry (visit MessengerInternational.org) for help finding a church in your area.

You have just embarked on the most remarkable journey. May you grow in revelation, grace, and friendship with God every day!

Endnotes

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