

HOPeBOX

HOW FAR DO YOU WANT TO GO

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WHAT CAN YOU SAY ABOUT YOURSELF?

This was John's testimony when the Jewish leaders sent priests and Temple assistants from Jerusalem to ask John:—"Who are you?"....."Then who are you? We need an answer for those who sent us. What do you have to say about yourself?"

(John 1:19, 22 NLT)

INTRODUCTION: Many of you maybe already buried your dreams and now have no desires, but God has a purpose for your life. He has given you a circle of influence in a certain area, and there is something for which God has called you and wants to use you in society so that you succeed in all areas of your life.

1. WHAT CAN YOU SAY ABOUT YOURSELF? *(John 1:19-22 NLT)*

- A lot of people have no idea who they are, nor where they're from or where they're going, and even less know where they want to arrive. Because of this, they take turns in the desert doing things they weren't called for.
- **Confusion brings a delusion of your purpose.** When you don't know who you are nor your purpose from God, you are lost in time and will die filled, when you really have to die empty, giving everything that God has deposited in you.
- **God has deposited potential in you.**
You can impact this world with your potential, but if you don't know it then you will never be able to take it out and you could die filled with potential and dreams.

2. GOD CREATED YOU WITH A PURPOSE.

Not only for the spiritual area, but He wants you to represent Him well in this world in the social sphere. Not only did God call us to be seated and receiving or serving in the church, but also to position ourselves in some area of the society to impact it with everything that we carry spiritually.

3. WHAT IS THE MISSION OF OUR CHURCH? "To win souls and make disciples, **forming every person into a successful leader in their spiritual, family, social and financial life**". God wants you to succeed in all areas, including in the social and financial.

- **You can have success.** In ACFC, we believe that every person is a leader in an area. For example, not everyone will be a leader in sports and at the same time in music or in politics. You can succeed in all the areas, but you will not be a leader in all areas. Not everyone can be a Messi, and Obama, etc.
- How many have dreams of graduating from the University? How many believe that you can? The only limit that we have is ourselves.

4. WHY IS THE SPIRITUAL FIRST?

- Because God made us spiritual beings before professional beings. For that reason, you can't put aside church, nor your relationship with God and just dedicate yourself to your career; because there are some that they start to have social success and they forget God. (*John 15:5*) God will give you success. Nothing that you do in this world can be detached from the spiritual.
- The first area where God wants us to succeed is in the spiritual life. (*3 John 1:2*)
- God wants to give us the additions (*Mt. 6:33*) What could be the addition of God? A university career, scholarships, open doors in your career, etc.

- 5. GOD MADE YOU IN HIS IMAGE AND LIKENESS** (*Gen 1:27*). God is a creative God. He created all things with His voice, and before creating them He already had it in His mind. Don't be afraid of going to the University because God gave you creativity and intelligence. You are not an ordinary being, you are an extraordinary being.

- 6. WHAT DOES AREA MEAN?** This word comes from Latin and means "space on earth." (*Genesis 1:28*). This means that God gave us a piece of land, a piece of influence for us to achieve success. What area has God given you to develop your potential and have success?

CONCLUSION: *God did not create you so that you could be a failure but so that you can succeed in this life. You can align with God's purpose.*

SALVATION PRAYER: *Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so you can be my Lord and personal Savior, amen.*

INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

- What dreams have you buried?
- Do you know what God has called you to?
- What can they say about you?
- Is God first place in your lives?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

- Share what you want to study and some of your dreams.

HOW FAR DO YOU WANT TO GO?

“Well then, who are you?” they asked - “Are you Elijah?” - “No,” he replied.- “Are you the Prophet we are expecting?” - “No.” “Then who are you? We need an answer for those who sent us. What do you have to say about yourself?” John replied in the words of the prophet Isaiah: - “I am a voice shouting in the wilderness, ‘Clear the way for the Lord’s coming!’” (John 1:21-23 NLT)

INTRODUCTION: *This was the answer given by John the Baptist when the Jewish leaders sent priests and helpers of the temple from Jerusalem to ask him “Who are you?” He said it quite frankly – “I am not the Messiah.” He said it frankly because he had identity. Many times, we don’t know where we came from because we don’t have a clear identity in our lives, but John knew what his purpose was and new he was a voice that was going to cry out in the desert. That was his calling, that was his purpose, that is why God made him be born.*

1. WHAT CAN YOU SAY ABOUT YOURSELF?

- When you discover yourself and you can say something about yourself, then your calling might be there. It is the area where you can be a leader of success. It is where you could be someone who loves animals, that cares for them, and when they see a puppy limping in the street they want to help. Maybe that’s their passion and they could be a veterinarian. John said that he would be a voice in the desert.
- **Where are you going to be a voice?**
In what area of society are you going to be a voice? You are also a voice somewhere in society, you can be a voice in medicine, etc. Where do

you want to be a voice? What part did God call you to? God called you not to be a part of statistics, but to be a part of the difference. In what area of society do you believe you can be a voice?

2. HOW FAR DO YOU WANT TO GET?

- Sometimes the lifestyle that we have carried, the culture, what we have seen in our family, in the countries where we come from, etc. Have formed an idea in us and we believe that we will not arrive any further from what our families have, we believe that we are not going to go through the same thing they did in life.
- That atmosphere and way of thinking many times puts limits in people but God doesn’t want you to think like that. God wants you to think differently. God wants you to aspire to do something else. God wants you to take that limit off your mind.

3. REMOVE THE LIMITS OF YOUR MIND.

- **The word “limit” according to the dictionary means:** a real or imaginary line that marks a separation between two things - point or term that cannot be exceeded.
- Sometimes that line can be real. Maybe you have been through problems, perhaps you may not have

had a good example in your family. Maybe you didn't have good friends or maybe you had friends who had put you in a wrong atmosphere, that only think about going to parties or sex and they don't think about how to overcome. They have the mentality of just finishing high school and getting to work. That may be the reality for them, but that is not the reality for you because that has nothing to do with God's truth for your life.

- The limit can be a reality, or it could be imaginary, if you make it real for your life, you will have a separation of who you are and what God wants you to be.
- Remove all limits from your life, no matter how many failures you have had, no matter how your family had lived, no matter how you are living right now. It doesn't matter whether or not you have papers, none of that matters. Do you know what is important? It's what God thinks of you and what God thinks you can do.
- Those limits were sometimes created in our mind by the things we have lived and seen but God's truth is another. God wants you to understand that you have hundreds or thousands of alternatives in your lifetime.
- If you live with limits you will never dare to do things that will take you away from the level you are at, because you will be thinking about your limits.

CONCLUSION: *Remove all limits from your mind. You don't depend on a government nor a man, you depend on God and the best is yet to come. Do not fear! Keep walking with confidence because God is with you, God is going to open the doors for your life, you only have to keep believing.*

SALVATION PRAYER: *Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so you can be my Lord and personal Savior, amen.*

INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

- Where would you like to be a voice?
- How far do you want to go?
- What are the limits that won't let you advance?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

- Write on paper everything that defines you, what you like, what you have a passion for, etc. So, you can discover your calling.
- Start doing things that you have not dared to do, that they walk you towards your dreams.

GOD MADE YOU FOR SOMETHING GREATER

“Now then, tell my servant David, ‘This is what the Lord Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. (2 Samuel 7:8 NLT)

INTRODUCTION:

*There are two types of people: There are those who dream with something but don't do anything to reach it, sitting, comfortable, and waiting for things to come without lifting a finger. The other type of person reminds me of King David who was a man conformed to God's heart, worshiper, warrior, fearful of God and did many great things. But, he wasn't always a king. He was a sheep's pastor and his family didn't believe in Him. Even like that, he understood that he was made for something more. In the same way, **you were made for something more.***

1. DAVID, THE SHEEP'S PASTOR

- **What did they think about him?** Maybe that he would be a pastor forever, that he would never study to be something greater, that he wouldn't have a bright future, etc.
- Maybe people think that since you are Hispanic, or another ethnicity, you will always work in a fast food joint, with minimum wage and never go to college.

2. THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF PEOPLE:

- Those who have a problem and are tending to their sheep, but they don't want to do anything to come out of there.
- Those who are caring for and feeding the flock, but they know there is something else for them.
- In the same way, you can be working and earning little right now, but at the same time you are studying, knowing that you were made for more.

3. DAVID'S OPPORTUNITY. (1 Sam. 17:20-25)

- **Confront Goliath.** There were many soldiers who were supposedly prepared for war, but they were intimidated with fear of the giant, waiting for someone to come help them because they were not willing to confront it.
- **David was willing to take the risk and do something.** (1 Sam. 17:32) Being a young man, a simple sheep's pastor with no training, experience, abilities, background, but with a hunger to fulfill God's purpose because he knew he was made for something more, he came and told the king not to worry. He told the king he would have it all under control.

4. YOU WERE MADE FOR SOMETHING MORE.

- Where you come from doesn't matter. What's important is that God is with you and you were made for something more. You need to stop being average and continue growing in your education, abilities, etc.
- You have the mind of Christ and were made for something more than just graduating high school.
- **You need to conquer battles.** Maybe you're scared of going to college, or finances worry you. But, don't let that make you comfortable nor conform. You deserve the best because you are a child of God, but for that you need to work and pay the price.

- **He took you out from behind the sheep to do something else with you.** David knew that God took him out of where he was to do something greater with him. Maybe he took you out of depression and loneliness to do something bigger. What others think does not matter. You were made for something more. God has more for you and more victories for you. He has better jobs, a career, and that's God's desire for your life.
- **Tending the sheep, David's potential was limited.** If David wouldn't have come out of there, he wouldn't have known what he was capable of. You will not know what you are capable of until you surrender your life to God. Your present circumstances can be your reality, but they are not your truth. The truth is that God's plans for your life will be fulfilled.

5. IGNORE THOSE WHO DISCOURAGE YOU. (1 Samuel 17:28, 32-33)

- You will find them everywhere, at school, home, etc. But, you must ignore them. King Saul did not believe in David, neither did his brother.
- When you feel that you can do great things. Someone will come and tell you that you can't; that you can't change, God won't use you, you won't be successful, you won't graduate, etc. Many young people place their attention on wrong people, but you must ignore them because if not, they will kill your faith and diminish your desire to go beyond.
- You cannot let people contaminate your faith. Call things as God calls them. David didn't call Goliath "the giant," rather "the philistine" and didn't see him as a threat. David closed his ears to discouragement.

6. REMEMBER THAT GOD IS WITH YOU

David always knew that God was with him. (1 Sam. 17:37). What you've done does not matter, God is with you. Maybe you are confronting a battle and have felt alone, but don't doubt that He is with you and will give you motivation to push through.

CONCLUSION: *You can't let people steal your dreams of going beyond. You cannot let other people's lack of commitment contaminate your life because you were made for more and God is with you so you can achieve it. David did not conform because he knew he was made for more, and God made him famous. Maybe your beginnings are small, but God has more for you. He took you out from behind the sheep so you could be a leader of influence in others with your motivating example.*

SALVATION PRAYER: *Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my heart and my life so you can be my Lord and personal savior, amen.*

INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

- In what ways have other people's opinions affected you?
- What limits do you need to break to be what God wants you to be?
- Where did God take you out of?
- What has God called you to do? What do you need to do to achieve it?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

- ▶ Begin by asking God to show you why He took you out of where he did, and for Him to help you bring out all of your potential.
- ▶ Begin to relationship with successful people and distance yourself or ignore those you discourage you.

DREAM GREATLY

For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. (Jeremiah 29:11 NLT)

INTRODUCTION:

What are your dreams? Where do you want to get to? What do you think God is dreaming about with you? We want to motivate you with this series to do good in school or whatever else you can think of, to finish a career, etc. What you've been through in your previous years doesn't matter, nor what you have seen, nor what is happening in the country. God has good plans for your life, and He wants you to stand out. God tells you: "I have the plans for your life, not a government, not a politician, not a president. "The plans for your life; God has them. The one who created you, He knows what you were born for, He knows what your purpose is and your gifts, and He has good plans for your life.

1. DREAM BIG

- ***Don't dream little, God isn't a little God.*** Dream big, God has no limits. DON'T put limits in your life, God doesn't put them to let you dream and prosper. If God is a great God, why do we have to dream small?
- ***God brought you here to give you a future and to not return.*** Future means that there is something ahead of you, future doesn't mean walking backward, everything future is forwards.
- ***For God to give you something good, you have to wait for something good.*** In order to reach dreams that God has for your life, you have to be waiting for something good.

- ***God only has plans for good and not for bad.*** Jer. 29:11 is saying that your plans aren't always the plans of God, nor your dreams always the dreams of God. If your dreams and plans are good, God's are better. God's plan is for you to die empty, that you take out all potential that is inside of you.
- ***If God is so great, then He has big thoughts for you.*** (Isaiah 54:2-4) Get out of your comfort zone, leave the area where you have suddenly been accustomed to think small, be different from the rest. God by His nature can't think small so that's why you have to think big. Think beyond what you've seen, think beyond what you have been taught, think and dream of the dreams of God.
- ***Don't stop dreaming.*** It's time for you to see things the way God sees them, it's time for you to widen your thoughts and for you to know you can do it. God will put you, opportunities around you, just don't stop dreaming. The worse thing a person can do is to stop dreaming, God has plans with you, you just have to trust Him.

2. DREAMING IS AN ACT OF FAITH

- When you dream with faith, you activate something in the spiritual world that makes God exceed your expectations. What God wants is for you to dream that you can go far, that you can be someone in life. (Ephesians 3:20 NLT).

- For God to exceed your expectations; it doesn't depend on God, it depends on you through the power that acts in you. You have the power to activate God, so that He gives you everything that you didn't expect for yet but that it's something much better than what you dreamt of, it's something better than you imagine. That's why you must dream big, as big as you can, the craziest you can, the most unimaginable you can because everything that you dream of and everything great you could imagine, God will exceed your expectations.

3. DARE YOURSELF.

- **Dare yourself to knock on doors.** Dare yourself to ask for help, dare yourself to leave the fear. Dare to get back to school, dare to dream about a career and not only to finish High School but also dare to attend a University, etc.
- **Dare yourself to set goals.** The size of your God should determine the size of your goals, if you set small goals they aren't goals of God, they are yours. Everything you think in your own strength that you can reach; those aren't the dreams of God. Those are personal dreams, those are your goals where you don't need God but when you set goals for yourself that are unreachable, it's when you activate God and then they're achieved by the power that acts in you. (*Jer. 32:27 NLT*)

CONCLUSION: *Keep on dreaming, keep on activating God to grow the power that is in you. If a door closed, a bigger door will open for you. God wants you to keep dreaming, God wants you to return to school, God gave you the ability and capacity to move on, keep dreaming! Ask God: What is your dream for me? God, what should I dream? Remember, you weren't destined to fail.*

SALVATION PRAYER: *Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my life and my heart so you can be my Lord and personal Savior, amen.*

INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

- What will you dare to do for God now that you know you weren't destined to fail?
- What had prevented you from dreaming big?
- What things are you waiting for from God?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

- Write all the dreams on a paper that God has put in you, and pray every day for them, asking God to open doors and to give you the resources and divine contacts you need.
- Go after those dreams and start to act in faith, go back to school, get ready, study, apply for another work position, learn another language, start your own business, etc.

SERVICE MAKES YOU GREAT

“...just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many...” (Matthew 20:28 NLT)

INTRODUCTION: *The Bible teaches us that we were created to serve. Not only in church, but we should have an attitude of service everywhere; in our home, school, job, and community.*

THE GREATEST EXAMPLE OF SERVICE IS JESUS.

- He came not to be served, but to serve others. This is the same purpose God has for us: SERVICE.
- Most people prefer to be in positions of authority rather than positions of service. Today, there are many people that have forgotten to serve and forget that they are in the position they are in because they first served.
- In the Kingdom of God and in this church, those who are in the highest positions are there because they first served, and they continue to serve. Those who are in the highest positions are those who have served the most.

1. SERVICE GIVES YOU PURPOSE.

(Matthew 9:35-38)

- ***The purpose of Jesus was to come to earth to serve, not to be served.*** When we go to a retreat to serve, we are used to proclaim the Word of God. When we pray for the sick and free the oppressed, we are doing the same thing Jesus did.
- Service gives you purpose. It doesn't demote you, embarrass you or make

you less. Service makes you more, greater, and nothing in your life can produce what service to God can produce. Service gives you joy. *(Matthew 25:23)*

- Those who stop serving start losing their purpose little by little and there is no money in the world that can bring the satisfaction that serving someone brings.
- Service makes you feel useful and that makes you feel satisfaction.
- Serve beyond your own interests. Without waiting on someone to reward you with anything, but when you serve someone, you serve God and He will reward you. *(Matthew 25:37-40)*

2. WHEN YOU SERVE, BE AN EXAMPLE.

(Titus 2:6-8)

- There are many people that don't give anything for the youth, because they say they are lazy. But you have the opportunity to show them the contrary; that the youth serve, and they are the generation of the future. They aren't the ones that stay in bed until midday, rather they come and serve God because it is God's day. They serve in their homes and they always have an attitude of service.
- House of Peace leaders and mentors, be examples to those youth that are in your HOP. Show them service

because remember that we multiply not in what we say, but what we do.

3. WHEN YOU SERVE, GOD PLACES YOU IN OTHER LEVELS. (*Phillippians 2:7-9*)

- Maybe it is humiliating for you to pick up trash, clean a bathroom, vacuum, or greeting people. But, when you serve with a humble heart, God exalts you. This is what Jesus did. He humbled Himself and God exalted Him to the highest possible place.
- When you learn to serve God, you learn to serve in every area and in every area, you will have a good reputation, because God gives you grace, favor, and opens doors. (*Hebrews 6:10*)

4. JESUS TOOK ON THE TOWEL OF SERVICE. (*John 13:3-5*)

One of the humblest Jobs during those times was cleaning someone's feet. But, one day Jesus was eating with his disciples and they had arrived on foot or on their donkeys. Even though they had left their sandals outside the house and entered barefoot, maybe they had dirt stuck on their feet or a bad odor. Imagine twelve disciples with dirty feet in that home! But, since no one there was willing to humble themselves and offer to wash their feet, Jesus had to set the example. He took a towel and water and began to wash each of their feet. That is when He realized what was in their hearts. But, Jesus' humility, in that moment represented setting the example of humility and service, and because of

that, the atmosphere of dirtiness and envy changed. The atmosphere of "what I believe, what I think, what I feel, what is good for me" was changed into an attitude of service and humility.

CONCLUSION: *Every great thing begins with service. If you want to go far, you need to serve. Serve in your home, community, job, but overall, serve God out of gratitude for everything He has done in your life. Do it with excellence and humility in your heart.*

SALVATION PRAYER: *Lord Jesus, I recognize that I have sinned and that you died for me. Today I repent and ask for forgiveness. I give you my heart and my life so you can be my Lord and personal savior, amen.*

INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

- In what area do you like to serve God? What gifts has He given you?
- Are you grateful with God for what He has done in your life?
- What are you doing to serve God through serving others?
- In what ways can you serve your community?

PRACTICAL APPLICATION:

- Make a commitment with God to support and serve in your net and join a ministry where you can develop your gifts and grow in your community.



There is a place for you