

SHEILA A. ADDO

HOLDING FIRM TO YOUR DESTINY

with

**30-Day
Devotional
Journey**

FOREWORD BY
PASTOR MRS. JOANA DEEGBE, ESQ

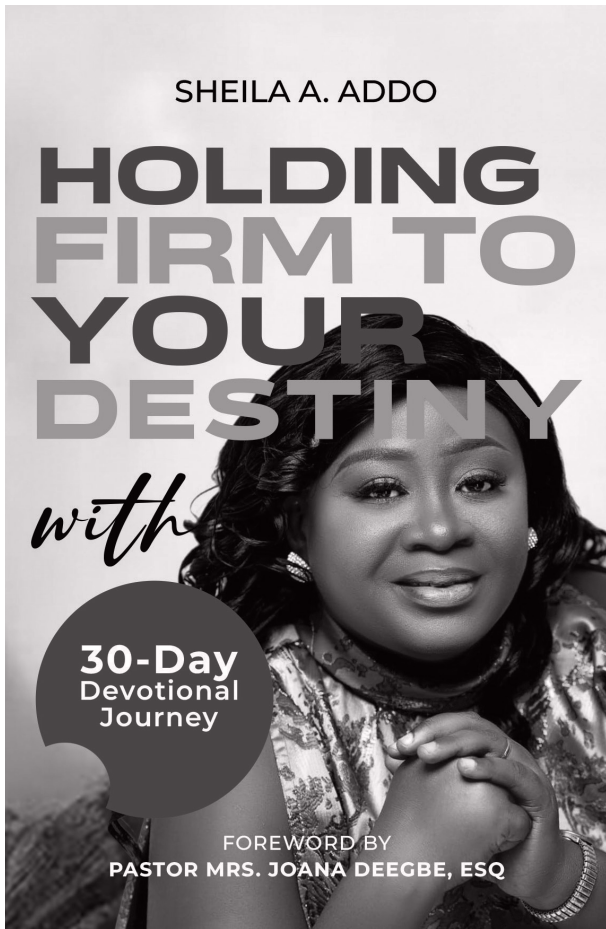
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HOLDING FIRM TO YOUR DESTINY

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DEDICATION

This book is lovingly dedicated to my dear mother, Mrs. Juliana Ofosuhene Apenteng. Your love, faith, and strength have been a constant source of inspiration.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My sincere gratitude goes to Mrs. Joana Degbe and Rev. Francis Narterh for their invaluable support. Your time, effort, and encouragement are deeply appreciated. May God richly bless you.

FOREWORD

The book “Holding Firm to Your Destiny” is an inspiring and educational work by Minister Sheila Addo. Though written in a simple, down-to-earth style, the import is powerful, indelible, and unforgettable.

In the introduction, the author defines Destiny as: “How one’s life has been designed to turn out to be, which will manifest in the future. “This design is done, carved by God, she affirms. She buttresses her assertion with a Biblical quotation.

What is the role of humans in “Holding Firm to Your Destiny?” The author is very practical in this regard. An individual should cooperate with God fully to realize one’s destiny. David was able to enter his Destiny through “skillfulness and steadfastness”. Great character traits like courage, a repentant heart, hard work, a steadfast faith in God, and an intimate relationship with our God are also necessary to realize your destiny.

Also, in the book of Esther, Chapter 2, verse 7b, we read, “Esther was lovely in form and features”

(NIV). The author says Esther had a lovely figure by not overeating to become obese, nor starving herself to become skinny and unhealthy. The author guesses that Esther had a ready smile and did not ‘squeeze her face’!

It is heartwarming to know that Esther’s humility to her uncle or cousin Mordecai and even Hegai, the King’s eunuch under whom Esther was to be trained, led her to walk into her destiny of being chosen, though a foreigner, to the much-coveted position of Queen of Persia, her ultimate destiny. Doing practical, Godly actions means holding to one’s DESTINY FIRMLY and thus being propelled into one’s ultimate destiny.

Though the author touches on Destiny detractors like bad friends, he focuses on the absolute importance of Destiny Helpers. In Part II, Minister Sheila Addo focuses on the important prayer topics and lessons to learn for one to hold on firmly to their destinies for 30 days.

To conclude, Minister Sheila Addo has done a great job by weaving poignant biblical stories to teach us powerfully how to hold on firmly and realize our destinies practically. The lessons are so well taught,

and so I wholeheartedly recommend this book to all who want to experience the great benefits of walking in our Destinies. Be blessed as you hold on firmly to your destiny and walk in it!

Pastor Mrs. Joana Deegbe, Esq

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INTRODUCTION

Have you ever wondered why you are here and what God has truly designed your life to become? The answer lies in one word: **destiny**.

God has a future plan for everyone, and He has an intended purpose for your life. That is your destiny. Destiny is how one's life has been designed to turn out, and it will manifest in the future. This is done by God, for destiny is formed and carved by Him. The Bible says that "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and before you were born, I set you apart and appointed you as a prophet to the nations" (Jeremiah 1:5).

Before Jeremiah was born, God knew him and had already set him apart as a prophet, which means that Jeremiah had been designed to become a prophet, and this was supposed to manifest in the future. This tells us that long before we took our first breath, God had already written our story.

Yet knowing your destiny is only one part of the journey. The greater challenge is holding firm to it, especially when the road becomes long, the process becomes painful, and the promise seems far away.

God determines the time in which your destiny will manifest, and He also determines the process you go through before it does. Sometimes people may go through a period of poverty, sickness, and many more before they finally enter into their destiny. Joseph went through a period of becoming a servant and then a slave in Potiphar's house before he finally became a governor in Egypt.

Samuel had to live in Eli's house and serve before he became a prophet, and during their period of service, nothing perhaps revealed what their destiny entailed.

Esther had to compete with other young women before she could become Queen, and she had to go through beauty therapy. It was really a crucial time for her, yet she was finally selected to be the king's wife, King Ahasuerus, a Persian ruler.

Joseph was put in prison and had to go through leadership training there. Genesis 39:22 reads: "So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there." There seemed to be no hope of his family ever bowing to him, as he saw in his dream, but after that period, he became governor of Egypt and his destiny manifested.

Between the time a person is born and when his or her destiny will manifest, nothing may show what God has perhaps designed that

person's life to be in the future. However, at the appointed time, the person's glory will manifest, and there can also be a testing period after which your glory will manifest.

This book is written to encourage you to hold firm to your destiny, no matter what you face along the way.

Through the lives of great men and women in the Bible, you will discover how to identify your destiny, protect it, build it, and guard it against every force that seeks to hinder it. God has not forgotten you, and His plan for your life will come to pass.

CHAPTER ONE

IDENTIFYING ONE'S DESTINY

One of the most important things in life is knowing what God has destined you to become. Many people walk through life without a clear sense of direction, not because God has not spoken, but because they have not recognised how He reveals destiny.

God is not silent concerning your future, and He has several ways of making His plans known to those who are attentive to His voice. The following are some of the ways through which God can reveal your destiny to you.

God Can Speak to You Concerning Your Destiny

God can speak to an individual concerning his or her destiny, and you may hear Him clearly speak to you, or He may reveal it to you in a dream, just as He did with Joseph. In Jeremiah 1:4-5, it reads: “The word of the Lord came to me, saying, ‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.’”

God revealed Joseph’s destiny to him in a dream, and when he told his brothers, they hated him all the more.

Genesis 37:5-6 reads,

“Joseph had a dream, and when he told his brothers, they hated him all the more. He said to them, ‘Listen to this dream I had. We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it.’”

Mary was also spoken to clearly by God about her destiny, for she was destined to be the mother of the Messiah.

Luke 1:34-35 reads:

“How will this be, “Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the Holy One to be born will be called the Son of God.”

Thus, God can reveal our destiny to us through dreams and also by speaking clearly to us.

Prophecies Can Reveal One’s Destiny

Prophecies are revelations given by prophets who are assigned by God to reveal the future to His people.

In 1 Samuel 10:1, it reads:

“Then Samuel took a flask of olive oil and poured it on Saul’s head and kissed him, saying,

Has not the Lord anointed you, ruler over his inheritance?”

Samuel announced to Saul that God had destined him to be a ruler and anointed him, and this was a prophecy revealing one's destiny.

Many years ago, I felt very sick and went to a prophetic service to pray for healing. As I sat on my chair, the prophet touched me and gave a prophecy about my destiny. He prophesied to me that I was destined to be a renowned gospel musician.

Abraham also received a prophecy that he would become the father of many nations.

Genesis 12:2 reads:

“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you. I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.”

Dreams Can Reveal One's Destiny

Joseph's destiny was revealed to him in a dream. Genesis 37:5-7 recounts how Joseph saw in his dream that one day he would be put in a higher position where the family would bow to him. This became a reality, for he became governor of Egypt. His family went to Egypt in search of food, and they indeed bowed to him, the governor of Egypt.

CHAPTER TWO

INDIVIDUALS IN THE BIBLE WHO DISCOVERED THEIR DESTINY

Throughout the pages of scripture, there are men and women whose lives stand as powerful testimonies of what it means to discover and walk into God's designed purpose. Their journeys were not without difficulty, yet each one held firm to what God had revealed, and in due season, their destiny manifested.

- **Joseph**

Joseph was one of the sons of Jacob, and he lived his life serving his brothers. His father would always send him to bring food to his brothers when they went to feed the sheep, and he was extremely industrious. His father loved him dearly.

Joseph had two dreams that made him discover his destiny, and his father understood the dreams clearly. In the first dream, his brothers' sheaves of grain bowed to his, and the second dream also revealed the sun, moon, and eleven stars bowing to him. Joseph's brothers also understood his dream, for Genesis 37:8 reads: *"His brothers said, Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?"*

His father also interpreted his second dream, and it was clear that he would rule one day.

Genesis 37:9-10 reads:

"Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. 'Listen,' he said, 'I had another dream and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me.' When he told his father as well as his brothers, his father rebuked him and said, 'What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?"

Verse 11 says that his brothers were jealous of him, which means they believed the dream and accepted the fact that it was going to manifest. The Bible also says that his father kept the matter in mind, and this means that his father believed the dream was a revelation from God and thus attached great importance to it.

Dreams can easily reveal one's destiny, for a dream of rendering a service to a man of God can mean a call to ministry. When God reveals our destiny to us, we need to react positively and accept it as His will for our lives, and the joy in our heart is what will propel us to work on ourselves to reach that goal.

Joseph received opposition when he discovered his destiny, for his brothers hated him and his father rebuked him when he shared his dream. Sometimes when we reveal our destiny to people, or they identify it in us, they may begin to mock us, and some may also give negative criticisms.

I remember when I started a Bible study program on TV. A pastor approached me angrily and said I had never been to a seminary, so I did not qualify to do a Bible study program on TV. I did not give any response, but I pursued my destiny. I now have a Master's in Ministry from Trinity Theological Seminary and have written two Bible study materials for adults.

Joseph never responded when his brothers showed jealousy and his father rebuked him, but he kept his destiny in his mind and perhaps looked forward to when it would happen. It takes consistent effort to close your mind to what opposers may say, so that you can fulfil the destiny for which God called you.

One day, during one of my interviews as a gospel musician, the host of the program asked me, "Why is it that you have released several songs and yet you are not popular?" I did not get discouraged, but I answered him confidently that at God's own time, He would bring me into the limelight and I would be a star.

When God is preparing you to enter into your destiny, people around you may recognise it, and it could be your church members, family members, or neighbours. Some may be happy for you, while others may not, but your responsibility is to be determined to reach the goal.

God has so many ways of helping His children enter into their destiny, and sometimes He may open a door of opportunity to serve in that area of your destiny. For example, when He is preparing you to become a pastor, He may open a door of consistent service in the church and bring lots of opportunities to lead the service and even preach, and this equips you and builds your confidence in that area of calling.

Joseph had the opportunity to serve as a leader in the prison, for the warden put the prisoners under Joseph's care (*Genesis 39:22*), and he therefore practiced leadership whilst in prison. God finally opened a door for him to become the governor of Egypt. Sometimes the process may look awkward and not direct, as in

Joseph's situation, where he was sold, and his brothers thought that could end the possibility of him entering into his destiny. However, God used that awkward situation to bring his destiny into fruition.

Therefore, when God is preparing you to enter into your destiny, pray about every opportunity that comes your way, for it could be linked to your destiny. Pray carefully about it and pursue it after being convinced to do so.

There are a lot of character traits Joseph portrayed in order to enter into his destiny. Joseph was serviceable, for he served Potiphar and his wife, served the inmates when he was in prison, and also served his brothers. He travelled long distances just to give them food. One of the greatest ways of entering into your destiny is by service. Serve under your head pastor with all diligence, serve under your boss with all diligence, and serve under your lecturer with all diligence.

Do your best to serve your colleagues and give great inputs during discussions, for it may open a door for you to enter into your destiny.

- **David**

David discovered his destiny through a prophet called Samuel, who anointed him (*1 Samuel 16*), and this revealed his destiny to him. At the time God sent Samuel to anoint David, he was with his father Jesse's sheep, and suddenly God revealed his destiny to him. He was anointed with oil in the presence of his brothers as the next king of Israel, and God reveals the destiny of individuals to them mostly through prophets of God.

David's reaction after he was anointed was positive, for he never asked why or when it was going to happen. He believed Samuel was a true prophet sent by God, and so he held firm to his destiny and never doubted. Our reactions when we receive prophecies concerning our destiny are very crucial, for we should not doubt but hold firm to our destiny, knowing it must come true.

David received opposition from King Saul, who wished he could give the throne to Jonathan, his son, and he did everything possible to kill David so that he would not fulfil his destiny. We are bound to receive opposition when God is preparing us to enter into our destiny, and some of them could be friends, church members, or colleagues at the office.

You need to be firm and determined to enter into your destiny through prayer, hard work, and wisdom from God. In *1 Samuel 17*, David fought Goliath and won, and it took courage, a very strong relationship with God, and faith.

In *1 Samuel 18:6-7*, David received the acceptance of the women from all over Israel as they danced and sang to celebrate his victory. We can easily break through into our destiny through hard work, courage, faith in God, a great relationship with God, wisdom, and prayerfulness, and the moment we receive a prophecy about our destiny, we need to engulf ourselves with these qualities.

David was able to enter into his destiny through the grace of God, and one of the sure means of entering into our destiny is praying for grace. Grace means divine assistance given by God to humans to achieve goals in life, and there is no way a stone can kill a giant like Goliath without it. There was a divine assistance called grace from God, and we can become what God has destined us to be if we seek His grace through consistent prayer.

David was also able to enter into his destiny through skilfulness, for he was a great musician and was skilful with musical instruments like the harp. David played the harp to drive away demons that were tormenting Saul, and his skilfulness was what paved the way for him to be in the palace to serve Saul.

1 Samuel 16:23 reads:

“And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God came upon Saul, that David took a harp and played with his hand, so Saul was refreshed and was well.”

David was gifted with great character traits apart from being skilful, and one of the greatest was courage. He fearlessly fought Goliath and went to several wars and won victory. Courage is a great element needed to enter into our destiny, and we need to build up our faith with courage, not focus on negative comments people may make, but be strong and believe that we will thrive in our destiny.

David also had a great repentant heart, and our destiny is formed by God, who is the giver of our destiny. Because of that, we need to foster a good relationship between us and God, and whenever we sin, we should be ready to repent so that our relationship with God is restored. David had a repentant heart (*2 Samuel 11*).

- **Esther**

Esther was destined to become the queen of Persia, and this was unknown to her, for no prophet had prophesied to her of becoming a queen. Sometimes we may not get a prophet to prophesy or reveal our destiny to us, but as we

walk the journey of life, God through His grace draws us into our destiny and may use destiny helpers, and this is what happened in Esther's life.

Her uncle Mordecai could be classified as a destiny helper, for he raised Esther up and mentored her as well.

In Esther 2:2, it reads:

“Then the king's young men who attended him said, Let beautiful young virgins be sought out for the king.”

Officers were appointed in all provinces of the kingdom to gather all the beautiful young virgins to the harem in Susa, the citadel, under the custody of Hegai, the king's eunuch. Esther happened to be among the young virgins who were put under the custody of Hegai to be selected as queen, and the Bible says that the young woman Esther pleased Hegai and won his favour.

Hegai therefore quickly provided her with cosmetics, food, and seven chosen young women from the king's palace, and he also advanced her and her young women to the best place in the harem (*Esther 2:8-10*).

Hegai was indeed a destiny helper to Esther, for without his special provisions, she may not have gained the opportunity to be selected, as she had certain unique provisions that the rest of the young women did not have.

Mordecai also advised Esther never to make known her people or kindred (*Esther 2:10*), and this was a great piece of advice, since the king would have preferred someone from his own town. Mordecai and Hegai were thus great destiny helpers to Esther.

Destiny helpers are very crucial when it comes to entering into your destiny, and that is why it is important to build good relationships and also the right character, in order to have favour in the sight of people. "Esther had great qualities that enabled her to enter into her destiny.

Esther had great qualities that enabled her to enter into her destiny, for she had a beautiful figure and was lovely to look at (Esther 2). In our time, I would say that Esther had her lovely figure by not overeating to become obese, neither starving herself to become skinny and unhealthy, and I believe she also loved to smile, and that made her beautiful to look at.

We need to always keep ourselves healthy, especially when we desire to enter into our destiny, and we need to also maintain our physical appearance. One of the greatest qualities Esther had was her appearance and good decorum.

Esther had an obedient heart, for she listened to the advice of both Mordecai and Hegai, and she was ready to go through training of beauty therapy for one year, about six months with oil of myrrh and six months with spices. She was also teachable, for Esther 2:20 reads:

“Esther had kept secret her family background and nationality just as Mordecai had told her

to do, for she continued to follow Mordecai's instructions, as she had done when he was bringing her up."

These great qualities of Esther are very crucial when we want to enter into our destiny.

Esther also had great directions from God that enabled her to enter into her destiny, for she could not have become the queen as a foreigner had she not kept her identity secret. This great advice of not revealing her identity was given to her by her uncle Mordecai, and we need to place great importance on the directions God gives us.

- **Samuel**

Samuel was destined to become a prophet, and God revealed this to him through his mentorship under Eli. Samuel also stayed in the presence of the Lord and lived in Shiloh, where he saw and was trained in the practices done there in terms of how sacrifices are made, how to hear from God, prayer, and many more. Samuel also received favour from God and from people, for

1 Samuel 2:26 reads:

“And the boy Samuel continued to grow in stature and in favour with the Lord and with man.”

Samuel had great qualities, for he was a very humble boy who carefully followed every instruction Eli gave him. Eli gave Samuel strict instructions when he first had an encounter with God.

1 Samuel 3:9 reads:

“So Eli told Samuel, Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.”

Samuel feared God and never followed the practices done by Eli’s children, but lived a life of purity in the sight of God.

Samuel also allowed himself to be mentored by Eli, for his mother took him to Eli after he had been weaned, and he ministered before the Lord under Eli (1 Samuel 3:1).

Samuel stayed in the presence of God.

“The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the Lord, where the ark of God was.”

1 Samuel 3:3

Samuel was also teachable, for Eli trained him on how he could communicate with God (1 Samuel 3:9).

Samuel was very truthful.

“So Samuel told him everything, hiding nothing from him.”

1 Samuel 3:18

He also built a great relationship with God.

“The Lord continued to appear at Shiloh, and there he revealed himself to Samuel through his word.”

1 Samuel 3:21

Samuel was a prophet, a priest, and a judge.

Eli was a great destiny helper of Samuel, for he trained him. His mother, Hannah, also played

a major role in making his destiny a reality, for she had to release Samuel back to God by sending him to Shiloh after he had been weaned. Her courage and confidence to release her only child to God at that time propelled Samuel into his destiny.

We need destiny helpers in our life journey, for our destiny helpers can sometimes support us financially, give great advice that can open doors for us, or support us with consistent prayer that brings great breakthroughs.

QUALITIES COMMON TO ALL THE GREAT CHARACTERS WE HAVE DISCUSSED

Our character formation and how we live our lives can contribute greatly to us entering into our destiny, and some of the character traits displayed by all these people include;

1. They knew God personally.

They had a good relationship with God to the extent that they could all hear God speak to them in many diverse ways. Joseph could receive messages from God through dreams and could interpret dreams and tell the future, revealing what God intended to do in the lives of people. Samuel could hear God speak to him clearly, and he had a very close relationship with God even at his early ages at Shiloh.

David was very intimate with God to the extent that God could give him great directions, and the idea of killing Goliath with a stone was one such great direction from God. Esther also had a great relationship with God, for she received direction from God to order the Jews, including herself and her attendants, to fast for three days, for the Israelites would not be annihilated (Esther 4:16).

2. They had very obedient hearts

They all obeyed every instruction God gave them, and one of the greatest qualities you need to have if you want to enter into your destiny is an obedient heart, for God will give you clear instructions and you need to obey.

3. They all had destiny helpers through great relationships with people

Samuel had Eli as a destiny helper. Joseph had the cupbearer of Pharaoh as his destiny helper, for he recommended Joseph to Pharaoh as an interpreter of dreams. David had Jonathan as his destiny helper, and David could have died prematurely before his time to be king, but Jonathan gave him great ideas of protection and prevented his father Saul from killing him.

Esther had both Mordecai, her uncle, and Hegai as destiny helpers, for Mordecai gave her great counsel of not revealing her identity, whilst Hegai provided her with beauty treatments and

also moved her and her attendants into the best place in the harem.

4. They were all great people of faith

Esther demonstrated so much faith when she trusted God that the Jews would not be annihilated. David demonstrated faith in his fight with Goliath. Joseph demonstrated faith in the deliverance of his family from famine, and Samuel demonstrated great faith in trusting God for a king for the people of Israel.

Faith is a crucial quality when we want to enter into our destiny, and sometimes the future may look bleak, but we still have to build our faith.

5. They all had intimate relationship with the Lord

David would always enquire of the Lord before he took every step, especially during wars. The Bible records nine enquiries of David from the Lord, 1 Samuel 23:1-3, 2 Samuel 5:19, 1 Samuel 23:4-5, 1 Samuel 23:10-11, 1 Samuel

23:12-14, 1Samuel 30:8-9, 2 Samuel 2:1-2, 2 Samuel 5:17-21.

We need to build a very intimate relationship with the Lord if we want to hold firm our destiny. Have a daily devotion with the Lord and present every step you take to him.

CHAPTER THREE

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR DESTINY

Entering into your destiny is a great blessing, but protecting it is an equally important responsibility. The enemy is always looking for ways to hinder, divert, or destroy what God has purposed for your life, and it is therefore important that you are intentional about guarding your destiny. Some of the key ways through which you can protect your destiny are;

1. Watch your friends

David had a great friend called Jonathan, who helped him enter into his destiny by giving him support and great advice. Bad friends, however, may destroy a great destiny or prevent you from entering into it, for some may give you

bad advice that could divert your path away from your destiny, and they may do so out of jealousy, bitterness, or anger.

Proverbs 18:24 says:

“One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin.”

Do not share everything with your friends, especially prophecies you receive concerning your destiny, and take time to build a trusted friendship. Take time also to trust God for the right mentor, for the right people around you can make a great difference in the journey towards your destiny.

2. Watch your character

The right character building is very important, for you need the right character to grow and build your destiny. You need the right character to develop a close relationship with God, and if you harbour unforgiveness or hatred in your heart, you break your relationship with Him.

Remember, He is the giver of your destiny, and it is therefore imperative that you build a good relationship with Him so that you can grow in your destiny.

3. You need to be enriched with the fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22-23 mentions the fruit of the Spirit, which is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Learning to talk at the right time is crucial for maintaining one's destiny, and it is therefore important to avoid unnecessary arguments, for they can cost you greatly on the journey towards your destiny.

4. Positive confessions

Proverbs 18:21 talks about the fact that the tongue can bring life or death, and because of that, you have to speak positively into your life. Whatever destiny God has for you can be fulfilled as you speak it into being, and you

should therefore declare that it will happen through positive confession.

If you want to maintain your destiny, you will need to avoid negative confessions, even when the future looks bleak, for prophecies are bound to happen even when the conditions seem not to be good. Hold on to what God has said concerning your life and keep declaring it, for your words carry great power over your destiny.

CHAPTER FOUR

HOW TO BUILD YOUR DESTINY

Discovering your destiny is the beginning of a great journey, but building it requires intentional effort, dedication, and a deep reliance on God. Just as a house is built brick by brick, your destiny is built through consistent choices, godly character, and a willingness to go through the process God has laid out for you.

1. Prayerfulness

Anytime the devil realises who God has destined you to be, he tries to fight against it, and he does so through humans. Some may develop extreme hatred for you, just as Joseph experienced from his brothers, and some

may speak negatively into your life in the form of curses, to divert or reverse what God has destined for your life. Prayerfulness is, therefore, a key to entering into one's destiny and building it, and you should make time to pray, have a place of prayer, and spend time fasting if possible.

2. Hard Work

Ruth was very hardworking.

Ruth 2:7 reads:

“She said, ‘Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves behind the harvesters.’ She came into the field and has remained here from morning till now, except for a short rest in the shelter.”

The first impression Boaz had about Ruth was that she was a hardworking woman, and he was therefore happy to accept such a woman as his wife.

Ruth was destined to be part of the lineage of Jesus Christ, for she was the great grandmother of King David. Ruth gave birth to Obed, Obed became the father of Jesse, and Jesse became the father of David.

Hard work has pushed a lot of people into their destiny, and this could also be because hard work attracts destiny helpers, for nobody would like to invest in a lazy person. Hard work also produces fruitfulness, and we should therefore work hard to build our destiny.

3. Discipline

Discipline is one's ability to obey rules or a code of behaviour, and it is difficult to enter into your destiny without being disciplined. This is because sometimes our walk with the Lord is guided by rules, and a little folly can destroy a great opportunity to enter into your destiny.

Joseph could have failed to enter into his destiny of becoming the governor of Egypt if he had slept with Potiphar's wife, and David

may not have become king of Israel if he had killed Saul. David said, “How could I kill the one anointed by God,” and he spared Saul’s life twice.

1 Samuel 24:11 reads:

“See, my father, look at this piece of your robe in my hand. I cut off the corner of your robe but did not kill you. See that there is nothing in my hand to indicate that I am guilty of wrongdoing or rebellion. I have not wronged you, but you are hunting me down to take my life.”

Discipline is crucial when you want to enter into your destiny and also build it, and I have done my best to be disciplined as a young woman in ministry. I have tried my best not to engage in unhealthy relationships with men, for I know this may destroy the glory on my life. Discipline is indeed a key to building one’s destiny.

CHAPTER FIVE

HOW TO ENTER INTO YOUR DESTINY

There comes a point in every believer's life where the promise of God begins to draw near to manifestation, and it is at this point that patience, obedience, and a keen sensitivity to the voice of God become most critical. Entering into your destiny is not something that happens by chance, but it is the result of walking closely with God and following His lead every step of the way.

1. Be Patient With God

Whenever people receive prophecies or get a revelation concerning their destiny, they are

often impatient in expectation, but it may take years, weeks, or days for us to enter into our destiny.

Abraham was promised to be a father of all nations, but this did not happen overnight, and we therefore need to be patient with God if we want to enter into our destiny. We need to entrust the whole journey into His hands, for He knows the right time you are fully prepared to enter into your destiny.

We should never go ahead of God, and we should not engage in dubious ways because of certain revelations we have received from God concerning our destiny, for we may end up where God has not placed us, or we may enter into our destiny at the wrong time, and this may come with consequences. Absalom wanted to be a king and rose against his own father, but David's men killed him and his desire never came to pass.

2 Samuel 16:16 reads:

“Then Hushai the Arkite, David’s confidant, went to Absalom and said to him, Long live the king! Long live the king!”

People had begun referring to Absalom as king, although his father David was still alive, and the only time he could rightly be referred to as king was after his father had died and he had been officially enstooled. He was killed because of what he did, and he could never inherit his father David’s throne. Let us therefore be patient with God as we wait for Him to help us enter into our destiny.

2. Listen To Clear Instructions From God

David became a hero in Israel by killing Goliath, and the killing of Goliath with a stone was a clear direction from God. The victory over Goliath was what paved the way for him to become a king in Israel, for the people of Israel gained confidence in him that he could

lead them into victory during war, and he had the acceptance of the people of Israel.

David had been anointed by Samuel to become king, but he still had to follow clear instructions from God every step of the way.

Once God gives you a direction and you follow it, you will definitely enter into your destiny, and it therefore means that we need to build our relationship with God so that we can receive clear instructions from Him when He communicates them to us.

A close walk with God is not optional when it comes to entering into your destiny, for it is through that relationship that He guides your steps and directs your path into the fulfilment of all He has purposed for your life.

CHAPTER SIX

DESTINY DETRACTORS

As you journey towards the fulfilment of your destiny, you will encounter forces and individuals that will attempt to slow you down, discourage you, or pull you away from the path God has set for you. These are destiny detractors, and understanding who they are and how they operate is crucial to staying on course.

The Bible gives us clear examples of how destiny detractors can operate in the lives of God's people, and it is important that we are wise enough to recognise them and guard ourselves against their influence.

Destiny detractors are individuals or negative forces that attempt to hinder personal growth,

goal achievement, and purpose, and they can indirectly or directly hinder your destiny. Jonathan had a son called Mephibosheth, who was the grandson of King Saul. When his nurse heard of the death of King Saul and Jonathan, she decided to run with him to safety, but in her haste, she dropped Mephibosheth and he became crippled.

There was no way a crippled person could inherit the throne, and this nurse may therefore have destroyed the destiny of Mephibosheth, not out of malice, but out of panic and poor judgement. This tells us that destiny detractors do not always act out of deliberate ill will, but their actions can still cause great damage.

Be careful of destiny detractors, for they come in many forms. They are the people who may never encourage you, the people who will always talk about the negative things you do and never the positive ones, the people who will always make you feel the future looks bleak, and the people who will always gossip about you.

These are all signs of destiny detractors, and we should not pay attention to what they do, but rather keep our focus on our goal and purpose in life. Our focus should be on what God has destined us to be, for as long as we keep our eyes on Him and the destiny He has placed in our hearts, no detractor will have the power to stop what God has already purposed for our lives.

Guard your heart, guard your mind, and guard your associations, for these are the gates through which destiny detractors gain access.

Pray consistently, stay close to God, and surround yourself with people who speak life into your destiny, and you will find that the plans of destiny detractors will not prosper against the purpose God has established for your life.

[PART II]

**30 DAY JOURNEY
TO HOLDING
FIRM TO YOUR DESTINY**

DAY 1

MAKING A SINCERE PRAYER TO GOD

Bible Passage: 1 Chronicles 17:23-24

Memory Verse:

“And now, Lord, let the promise you have made concerning your servant and his house be established forever. Do as you promised.”

1 Chronicles 17:23

David had been destined by God to be a ruler of Israel, and it came to pass. David, however, had also received other promises from God concerning his family and his future.

In 1 Chronicles 17:8, the Bible says: *“I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies before you. Now I will make your name like the names of the greatest men on earth.”*

In 1 Chronicles 17:11, the Bible also says: *“I will raise up your offspring to succeed you,*

one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom.” David was therefore destined to have his own offspring succeeding him.

David did not just accept the prophecy, but he prayed a sincere prayer to God. 1 Chronicles 17:23 reads: “And now, Lord, let the promise you have made concerning your servant and his house be established forever. Do as you promised.”

Whenever we receive prophecies from God concerning our destiny, we should not just listen to them, but we should pray a sincere prayer of committing the prophecy to God, and we should also consistently pray about it and express how we desire to see our prophecies fulfilled.

PRAYER:

Father God, let whatever you have destined for my life be fulfilled

LESSON:

Never leave revelations concerning your destiny idle. Pray a sincere prayer about it every day.

DAY 2

TRUSTING GOD FOR GOOD HEALTH

Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 16:12-13

Memory Verse:

“So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.”

1 Samuel 16:12

David had been destined to be a king, and it was not something to be achieved on a silver platter, for it required great courage.

One of his greatest responsibilities was to lead wars, and he of course could not have achieved this without good health. Whatever God has destined us to become will need a process, and it will require us taking good care of ourselves so that we can live to see that day.

Whatever God has destined us to become may also require a great deal of work, especially if it is related to ministry, and this means that we need to be in good health to be able to perform our duties.

David was glowing with good health, and we therefore need to strive to take the required health measures, such as exercise, not eating late, and eating fruits and vegetables, among many more. God loves it when we are in good health, for when we are in good health, we can do more for the Lord.

When we are sick, we become less active and our output is affected, and that is why we should always trust God to keep us healthy and strong as we journey towards our destiny.

PRAYER:

Father, give me grace to take good care of myself, so that I can glow in good health.

LESSON:

Take good care of yourself.

DAY 3

BUILDING YOUR FAITH IN THE LORD

Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 17:34-37

Memory Verse:

“The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine. Saul said to David, ‘Go, and the Lord be with you.’”

1 Samuel 17:37

David had reached a point where he had to build his faith, for his victory over Goliath was what was going to open the door for him to enter into his destiny, and he needed great faith.

Sometimes we may have to fight battles before we can enter into our destiny, and we therefore need to build our faith and trust God for victory. Saul was pleased with the great faith David had and blessed him to go and fight

the battle, and this tells us that sometimes the faith we portray can encourage people around us to support us in our desire to enter into our destiny.

Our past testimonies can also help us build our faith, and David remembered his past testimonies and built his faith with them. The greatest thing you need if you want to enter into your destiny is faith, and we should therefore trust God to build our faith as we desire to enter into our destiny.

PRAYER:

Father, give me the grace to build my faith in You.

LESSON:

Have great faith.

DAY 4

TRUSTING GOD FOR GREAT COMPANIONS

Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 20: 1-4

Memory Verse:

“Jonathan said to David, ‘Whatever you want me to do, I will do for you.’”

1 Samuel 20:4

David had a great companion in Jonathan, who was indeed a good friend and a friend David could trust. Jonathan prevented David from being killed by Saul, encouraged him, and assured him of safety.

Great companions can be destiny helpers, and as believers we need to trust God for such friends, friends who can influence us positively, encourage us, and even pray with us. It takes prayer to decide on who should be a friend and

indeed a trusted one, and we should therefore not just make friends, but rather prayerfully choose friends who will be close to us, for such friends can be of great help to us in times of trouble.

May God help us to discern who is a true friend as we walk with people.

PRAYER:

Father, bless me with a great companion.

LESSON:

Choose your friends wisely.

DAY 5

TRUSTING GOD FOR A NOBLE CHARACTER

Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 16: 14-18

Memory Verse:

“One of the servants answered, ‘I have seen a son of Jesse of Bethlehem who knows how to play the lyre. He is a brave man and a warrior. He speaks well and is a fine-looking man. And the Lord is with him.’”

1 Samuel 16:18

One of the greatest destiny helpers of David was the servant of Saul who recommended him, for he shared the great qualities David had with Saul and presented David as someone with a noble character.

Some of the qualities he mentioned were that David spoke well, knew how to talk, was not rude, and spoke with gentleness and humility.

David was also a fine-looking man who took very good care of himself, dressed well, and kept his appearance neat.

In our journey in life, we will always need people to recommend us, and so we need to always present ourselves decently, build our character, avoid talking harshly and in arrogance, and be polite and courageous, for a noble character opens doors that hard work alone cannot.

PRAYER:

Father, give me the grace to build a noble character.

LESSON:

Have a noble character.

DAY 6

PRAYING DAILY FOR GOD'S PROTECTION

Bible Passage: 2 Samuel 15:13-16

Memory Verse:

“So David prayed, ‘Lord, turn Ahithophel’s counsel into foolishness.’”

2 Samuel 15:31

Absalom, David’s son, gradually won the heart of the people of Israel, for he wanted to be king and deeply desired his father’s position. He got connected with Ahithophel, his father’s counsellor, and had already sent secret messengers throughout the tribes of Israel to say:

“As soon as you hear the sound of the trumpets, then say, ‘Absalom is king of Israel’” (2 Samuel 15:10).

The conspiracy gained strength and Absalom's following kept increasing, and David had to flee. However, David prayed a prayer of protection to God and asked that the counsel of Ahithophel be turned into foolishness, for he had been told that Ahithophel was among the conspirators with Absalom.

These are the various kinds of attacks we may encounter when we enter into our destiny, for people may fight against us sometimes due to jealousy or hatred. We should therefore always pray to God for His divine protection in such situations, and we should also consistently pray that every conspiracy or plot against our lives will be destroyed.

PRAYER:

Father, deal with every conspiracy surrounding me.

LESSON:

Pray always against attacks on your destiny.

DAY 7

SEEKING FOR WISDOM

Bible Passage: Genesis 41: 37-40

Memory Verse:

“Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, ‘Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you.’”

Genesis 41: 39

Holding firm to your destiny requires great wisdom, for sometimes you may be confronted with a lot of decisions, and the right decisions can push you into your destiny.

Joseph received wisdom from God and took major decisions that were crucial to the protection of Egypt against famine, and his decisions also indirectly helped his own relatives against the famine.

The right decisions Joseph took made him gain favour and confidence in Pharaoh’s sight,

and if Joseph had lacked wisdom and taken wrong decisions, the entire nation of Egypt could have been destroyed by famine and he would perhaps have been removed as governor of Egypt.

Seeking wisdom from God is therefore one of the major things we need to seek from God in our desire to enter into our destiny.

PRAYER:

Father, bless me with wisdom.

LESSON:

Trust God for wisdom.

DAY 8

TRUSTING GOD TO LIVE A LIFE OF PURITY

Bible Passage: Genesis 39: 7-10

Memory Verse:

“And though she spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or even to be with her.”

Genesis 39: 10

Joseph loved God and walked in His ways, and no matter how his master's wife presented herself, he refused the offer she gave him to sleep with her. One of the things that poses great danger in our journey to enter into our destiny is sin, for sin destroys our relationship with God.

It is only God who can give us the grace to enter into our destiny, and once we live a life of purity and build our relationship with Him,

He grants us our heart's desire and makes our future plans come into fruition, for sometimes our destiny is embedded in our future plans.

If Joseph had slept with his master's wife, he would not have entered into his destiny, but he refused and was put in prison, and it was there that his gift of interpretation of dreams was discovered, and through that he became governor of Egypt.

Let us therefore do our best to live a godly life, for purity is a pathway into destiny.

PRAYER:

Father, help me to live a life of purity.

LESSON:

Strive to be godly.

DAY 9

SEEKING GOD'S GRACE IN MAKING DECISION

Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 30: 1-9

Memory Verse:

“And David enquired of the Lord, ‘Shall I pursue this raiding party? Will I overtake them?’”

1 Samuel 30: 8

David always enquired from the Lord before he took any decision, and he sought the confirmation of God before he took most of his decisions, especially whenever Israel was going to attack another nation.

We need to seek the face of God before we take any decision, and we need to ask God whether we will succeed in the step we are taking, bringing every decision before Him in prayer. There are many battles we do not have to engage in, and we should ask God whether

we will win before we engage, for if the answer is no, we should move on with life.

It could be something you heard someone said about you, and you do not need to confront the person but simply leave the issue to God, especially when you pray and He tells you there is no need to respond to such attacks. Let us therefore not involve ourselves in unnecessary battles.

PRAYER:

Father, give me grace to always enquire from You before I take every step.

LESSON:

Do not take any step in haste.

DAY 10

LEAVE YOUR DESTINY DETRACTORS IN THE HANDS OF THE LORD

Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 24: 8-11

Memory Verse:

“See, my father, look at this piece of your robe in my hand. I cut off the corner of your robe, but did not kill you. See that there is nothing in my hand to indicate that I am guilty of wrongdoing or rebellion. I have not wronged you, but you are hunting me down to take my life.”

1 Samuel 24: 11

Saul was a destiny detractor who did everything to prevent David from becoming a king, and he tried so many ways to kill him. David, however, spared his life and left him in the hands of the Lord.

In 1 Samuel 26:10-11, it reads: “As surely as the Lord lives, he said, ‘The Lord himself will strike him, or his time will come and he will die, or he will go into battle and perish. But the Lord forbid that I should lay a hand on the Lord’s anointed.

Now get the spear and water jug that are near his head, and let us go.” Leave your destiny detractors in the hands of God, for God himself will deal with them, and your responsibility is to stay focused on your destiny and trust Him to fight your battles.

PRAYER:

Father, give me grace not to focus on destiny detractors.

LESSON:

Leave destiny detractors in God’s hands.

TRUSTING GOD FOR A TRUE FRIEND

Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 23:14-17

Memory Verse:

“And Saul’s son Jonathan went to David at Horesh and helped him find strength in God.”

1 Samuel 23: 16

It is true that there are destiny detractors in life, but there can also be people who will encourage us, support us, and pray with us so that we enter into our destiny, and these could be friends, mentors, or prayer partners.

Jonathan was one such person, for he encouraged David, supported him through thick and thin, and helped him find strength in God at a time when he needed it most.

We need to trust God for true friends like Jonathan, for it is not easy to come by such

people, but with prayer, God will bring them into our lives.

A true friend is one of the greatest gifts God can give us on the journey towards our destiny, and we should therefore not stop praying until God brings such people into our lives.

PRAYER:

Father, I am trusting You for a true friend.

LESSON:

Trust God for a true friend.

DAY 12

LEARNING TO FORGIVE

Bible Passage: Genesis 45: 3-13

Memory Verse:

“Then Joseph said to his brothers, ‘Come close to me.’ When they had done so, he said, ‘I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt.’”

Genesis 45: 4

Joseph went through so much pain in the hands of his brothers, for they sold him into slavery, and he then served as a servant and was imprisoned.

However, he forgave his brothers and believed that whatever evil they had done to him had turned for his good and for the good of his entire family.

In our bid to enter into our destiny, many people may offend us, and we need to forgive them and trust God that it will turn for our

good, for unforgiveness is one of the greatest hindrances to entering into our destiny.

When we hold on to bitterness and pain, we block the flow of God's grace in our lives, but when we choose to forgive, we position ourselves for God to turn every painful experience into a stepping stone towards our destiny.

PRAYER:

Father, give me grace to forgive.

LESSON:

Learn to forgive your offenders.

DAY 13

BEING TRUSTWORTHY

Bible Passage: Genesis 39: 1-6

Memory Verse:

“Joseph found favour in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned.”

Genesis 39: 4

Sometimes, before you enter into your destiny, God will put you in the hands of your destiny helper, and the person you serve may be the one God will use to push you into your destiny, and that is why you need to be trustworthy so that you find favour in his or her sight.

Joseph was trustworthy, and perhaps he did not know that Potiphar was his destiny helper, but he loved God and decided to please God by

being trustworthy.

God may put us under certain people to serve them, and they need to gain our trust, for this will take us far on the journey towards our destiny. Trustworthiness is, therefore, not just a virtue but a key that can unlock great doors of destiny.

PRAYER:

Father, help me to be trustworthy.

LESSON:

Strive to be trustworthy.

DAY 14

BEING COURAGEOUS

Bible Passage: Esther 5: 1-7

Memory Verse:

“When he saw Queen Esther standing in the court, he was pleased with her and held out to her the gold scepter that was in his hand. So Esther approached and touched the tip of the scepter.”

Esther 5: 2

Esther was not just a woman of position, but she was also a woman of great courage. After Esther and the entire Jewish community had fasted for three days, she had to go and see the king and present her petition, and it was not permitted to see the king without being summoned.

However, Esther gathered courage and went to see the king, and the king held out to her the gold scepter that was in his hand, so Esther

approached and touched the tip of the scepter and was then able to present her petition.

We need to be courageous if we want to enter into our destiny, for there will be moments when we have to take bold steps of faith, knowing that God goes before us and makes a way where there seems to be none.

PRAYER:

God, please help me to be courageous.

LESSON:

Be courageous.

TRUSTING GOD TO ESTABLISH THE WORK OF OUR HANDS

Bible Passage: Psalm 90

Memory Verse:

*“May the favour of the Lord our God rest on us,
establish the work of our hands for us.”*

Psalm 90: 17

Sometimes you need physical resources to enter into your destiny, and some of these resources could come in the form of money to push your ministry forward.

God’s favour will establish the work of your hands so that you can have enough to pursue what He has called you to do, and this is the prayer we need to pray every day.

We need to trust God that every business that helps us gain income so that we can do ministry will thrive, and by God’s grace we will

not borrow but we will lend. The work of our hands will surely be established as we commit it to God in prayer and trust Him to bring it to fruition.

PRAYER:

Father, bless the work of my hands.

LESSON:

Pray for God to establish the work of your hands.

DAY 16

ACKNOWLEDGING GOD TO BE THE SOURCE OF YOUR UPLIFTMENT

Bible Passage: 2 Samuel 7:18-22

Memory Verse:

*“Who am I, Sovereign Lord, and what is my family,
that you have brought me this far?”*

2 Samuel 7: 18

When God lifts us and gives us the grace to enter into our destiny, we should acknowledge the fact that our glory comes from Him, and we should be full of thanks to this Almighty God.

We should not boast but give all the praise to God, for He formed our destiny even when we were in our mother’s womb, and it is only He who makes it become a reality.

We should therefore always acknowledge that it is He who has brought us this far, for

David believed it was God who had brought him to where he was, and that belief kept him humble and dependent on God.

When we acknowledge God as the source of our upliftment, we tell Him that we are fully dependent on Him and that we rely on Him to take us through the journey of life.

PRAYER:

Father, I appreciate that it is Your grace that has brought me this far. Thank You.

LESSON:

Give glory to God for how far He has brought you.

DAY 17

TRUSTING GOD TO LIVE A HOLY LIFE

Bible Passage: 2 Samuel 11: 1-5

Memory Verse:

“Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.”

2 Samuel 12: 10

David committed a terrible sin that displeased the Lord, and God therefore brought punishment upon him. If we want God to sustain our destiny, we need to live a holy life and abstain from fornication, adultery, gossiping, and many other things, for these things damage our relationship with God and can have great consequences on our destiny.

We need to train ourselves to live a godly life, and though it might not always be easy,

we have to do our best, for living a holy life enhances our relationship with God and positions us to receive His grace and favour. Let us therefore do our best not to bring God's name into disrepute, but to honour Him in all that we do.

PRAYER:

Father, give me grace to live a holy life.

LESSON:

Strive to live a holy life.

DAY 18

HONOURING GOD

Bible Passage: 2 Samuel 6: 12-15

Memory Verse:

“Wearing a linen ephod, David was dancing before the Lord with all his might.”

2 Samuel 6: 14

David loved to honour God, for he believed his upliftment came from the Lord and he was never proud. He always humbled himself before the Lord and danced with all his might when the ark of the Lord entered the city of David.

Michal was filled with contempt for him, but David never regretted doing that, for he knew that honouring God was more important than what people thought of him.

When God gives us the grace to enter into our destiny, we should always give Him the honour and publicly adore Him as David did,

and God will bless us for doing so.

We should not let anything hinder us from honouring God publicly, but let us always give Him all the glory, for He alone deserves it.

PRAYER:

Father, give me grace to honour You publicly.

LESSON:

Publicly honour God.

DAY 19

BEING INDUSTRIOUS

Bible Passage: Genesis 40: 4-18

Memory Verse:

“‘We both had dreams,’ they answered, ‘but there is no one to interpret them.’ Then Joseph said to them, ‘Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell me your dreams.’”

Genesis 40: 8

Joseph not only served Potiphar, but he was also industrious even in the prison, for the captain of the guard assigned two officials of Pharaoh to Joseph, and the Bible says that he attended to them.

Through this great character of Joseph, he became governor of Egypt, for he interpreted their dreams, and the cupbearer later recommended him to Pharaoh when Pharaoh had a dream that he could not interpret.

We need to serve our head pastors if we want to enter into our destiny, especially when it is related to ministry, and we also need to serve the elderly, our siblings, and our colleagues, for through service, God will open great doors for us and bring us into the fulfillment of our destiny.

PRAYER:

God, help me to serve others.

LESSON:

Trust God to make you serviceable.

BEING DETERMINED

Bible Passage: Ruth 1:11-18

Memory Verse:

“When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.”

Ruth 1:18

Determination is one of the greatest keys to success in life, and it can propel you into your destiny. Sometimes God may reveal to you His purpose for your life, and you may receive prophecies concerning your future, but you may also be faced with several challenges, and it is determination that will enable you to realise your dream.

Ruth was determined to follow Naomi and had no idea of God’s purpose for her life, but through determination, she met her husband, Boaz. They gave birth to Obed, who was the

father of Jesse, and Jesse was the father of David, and through that lineage, Ruth became part of the ancestry of Jesus Christ.

No matter what challenges come your way on the journey towards your destiny, let determination keep you going, for God rewards those who refuse to give up.

PRAYER:

God, help me not to give up in this journey of life, but to be determined.

LESSON:

Be determined in everything you set out to do.

DAY 21

BEEN ABLE TO TAKE ADVICE

Bible Passage: Esther 4:12–17

Memory Verse:

“Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do.”

Esther 4:16

Esther had been given the position of a queen, but she still respected and listened to the advice of her uncle Mordecai.

This is a powerful lesson for all of us, for even when God helps us to enter into our destiny, we should never forget that some people have already occupied such positions before us, and we need to be humble and listen to the great advice of such people.

Others may not have occupied such positions, but they may still carry great wisdom because of their experience in life, and we therefore have to listen to the advice they give.

Let us always allow God to order our steps through the counsel of those who are wiser and more experienced, for a humble heart that is willing to receive instruction is a heart that God can continue to use and elevate.

PRAYER:

Father, give me the grace to listen to the advice of those wiser than me.

LESSON:

Listen to godly advice.

DAY 22

BEEN SKILLFUL AT THE GIFT GOD HAS GIVEN YOU

Bible Passage: 1 Samuel 16:14–23

Memory Verse:

“Whenever the spirit from God came on Saul, David would take up his lyre and play. Then relief would come to Saul; he would feel better, and the evil spirit would leave him.”

1 Samuel 16:23

One of the greatest things that open doors for us to enter into our destiny is being skilful at the gifts God has given us, and these gifts could include singing, prayerfulness, prophesying, playing musical instruments, and many more

These gifts, when sharpened, can open great doors for you to enter into your destiny, and we therefore need to work hard on our gifts, practice consistently, and train adequately, so that any

time we get the opportunity to demonstrate our gifts, we are fully prepared.

David had the opportunity to serve in Saul's palace because he could play the lyre, and through this he developed a relationship with King Saul. Saul then gave him the opportunity to fight Goliath, and this brought David his breakthrough, for he became loved by the people of Israel and finally became their king.

Do not neglect the gift God has placed in you, but sharpen it, develop it, and offer it in service, for it is often the gift that makes room for your destiny.

PRAYER:

Father, help me to be skilful in my gift.

LESSON:

Train yourself in your gift.

DAY 23

DEPENDENCY ON GOD

Bible Passage: 2 Samuel 22:26–30

Memory Verse:

*“With your help, I can advance against a troop,
and with my God I can scale a wall.”*

2 Samuel 22:30

David showed great dependency on God, for he believed God was the source of all help and that all his victories in wars came from Him. We need to fully depend on God if we want to enter into our destiny, and we need to attribute our victory and glory to the Almighty God.

We can depend on God by praying before we take every step, and we need to also share our testimonies of victory with others, for God is our only source of upliftment.

Let us thank God for His glory upon our lives and for giving us the grace to enter into

our destiny, and let us depend fully on Him in every step we take, for without Him we can do nothing, but with Him all things are possible.

PRAYER:

Father, give me grace to depend on You.

LESSON:

Depend on God in every step you take in life.

DAY 24

BUILDING OUR CONFIDENCE

Bible Passage: Ruth 1:15–18

Memory Verse:

“But Ruth replied, ‘Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go, I will go, and where you stay, I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.’”

Ruth 1:16

Ruth married Boaz, and they had a son whom they named Obed, who was the father of Jesse, and Jesse was the father of David. Ruth was destined to become a descendant of Jesus Christ, the Messiah (Matthew 1:1-16), and it took great confidence for her to enter into her destiny.

She took a bold step to journey with her mother-in-law Naomi and become part of her family, not knowing what lay ahead, but

trusting that God would make a way.

Entering into our destiny sometimes takes confidence, and whatever God is leading us to do, we should do it with confidence, for He who has called us is faithful and He will see us through.

Building confidence also requires great practice and consistent prayer, and we should therefore commit ourselves to both as we journey towards our destiny.

PRAYER:

Father, give me confidence in my service to You.

LESSON:

Build your confidence.

DAY 25

BUILDING A NOBLE CHARACTER

Bible Passage: Ruth 3:10–13

Memory Verse:

“And now, my daughter, do not be afraid. I will do for you all you ask. All the people of my town know that you are a woman of noble character.”

Ruth 3:11

Noble character represents a rare, admirable, and consistent commitment to high moral virtues, integrity, courage, kindness, and selflessness, and Ruth was a woman of noble character.

This convinced Boaz that she could indeed be his wife, and through her marriage to Boaz, Ruth entered into her destiny of becoming a descendant of Jesus Christ.

One of the greatest things that can attract destiny helpers is a noble character, for a noble

character not only attracts favour from people but also favour from God.

Let us therefore strive to be above board and allow the Lord to shape our lives, growing more in the fruit of the Spirit, which is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, for it is this kind of character that positions us to receive all that God has purposed for our lives.

PRAYER:

Father, bless me with a noble character.

LESSON:

Allow God to shape your character.

USING OUR GIFTS TO SERVE OTHERS

Bible Passage: Daniel 5:1–29

Memory Verse:

“Here is what these words mean: Mene, God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end. Tekel, you have been weighed on the scales and found wanting. Peres, your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.”

Daniel 5:26–28

Daniel was made the third highest ruler in the kingdom, and this happened when he was able to interpret the writings on the wall to Belshazzar, the son of Nebuchadnezzar.

When we use our gifts to serve people, it opens great doors for us, and any time the opportunity comes for us to use our gifts, we should be prepared and ready to do so, for it

may pave the way for us to enter into our destiny.

Daniel did not hold back his gift but offered it in service, and God honoured him greatly for it. Let us therefore not hide the gifts God has placed in us, but use them faithfully and consistently to serve others, trusting God that as we do so, He will open the right doors and bring us into the fullness of our destiny.

PRAYER:

Father, help me to serve others with my gifts.

LESSON:

Serve others with your gift.

DAY 27

BUILDING YOUR LIFE AROUND GODLY FRIENDS

Bible Passage: Daniel 2:14–20

Memory Verse:

“Then Daniel returned to his house and explained the matter to his friends Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.”

Daniel 2:17

Daniel had friends named Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, and they were godly friends who feared God and together with Daniel refused the king’s food, which was food offered to idols.

Daniel was therefore confident that when he shared his issue with them, they would give godly counsel, and he shared with them the possibility of the king executing them all if the dream was not interpreted, and he urged them to plead for mercy from the God of heaven

concerning the mystery.

They pleaded together for mercy from God, and God heard their prayer, and the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision in the night.

The king then placed Daniel in a high position and lavished him with many gifts after he interpreted his dream, and this breakthrough came partly because Daniel had godly friends who stood with him in prayer.

Godly friends are therefore a great blessing in entering into our destiny, and we should trust God to bring such people into our lives.

PRAYER:

Father, bless me with godly friends.

LESSON:

Have godly friends.

TRUSTING GOD FOR WISDOM

Bible Passage: Daniel 2:12–16

Memory Verse:

“When Arioch, the commander of the king’s guard, had gone out to put to death the wise men of Babylon, Daniel spoke to him with wisdom and tact.”

Daniel 2:14

Daniel and his friends’ lives were at risk, for the king had decided to kill all the wise men if the dream was not interpreted, and a decree was issued to put them to death, and men were sent to look for Daniel and his friends to execute them.

Daniel had to use wisdom to convince Arioch, the commander of the king’s guard, to hold on, and it was that wisdom that bought them the time they needed to seek God for the answer.

We need wisdom in our daily walk, for some challenges can be dealt with only through wisdom, and some breakthroughs can also come our way only through wisdom.

Let us therefore trust God for wisdom through prayer, for it is the wisdom of God that will help us navigate the difficult seasons on the journey towards our destiny and bring us out on the other side in victory.

PRAYER:

Father, bless me with wisdom.

LESSON:

Trust God for wisdom.

PRAYING AND FASTING

Bible Passage: Nehemiah 1:1–7

Memory Verse:

“As soon as I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven.”

Nehemiah 1:4

Nehemiah was destined to build the wall of Jerusalem, for the walls had broken down and its gates had been destroyed by fire. He did not just take a physical step to go and build, but he also fasted and prayed, for he understood that no great work could be accomplished without first seeking the face of God.

Fasting and prayer can open doors for us to enter into our destiny, and every achievement can become a reality if we consistently present it to God in prayer.

We need to trust God for the grace to fast and pray in our bid to hold firm to our destiny, for fasting and prayer are not signs of weakness but signs of great dependence on God, and it is through them that He releases the strength, direction, and breakthrough we need to fulfil our purpose.

PRAYER:

Father, give me grace to fast and pray.

LESSON:

Do your best to fast and pray.

DAY 30

SEEKING HELP WHEN NECESSARY

Bible Passage: Nehemiah 2:11–20

Memory Verse:

“So I went to Jerusalem and was there three days. Then I arose in the night, I and a few men with me. And I told no one what my God had put into my heart to do for Jerusalem. There was no animal with me but the one on which I rode.”

Nehemiah 2:11–12

Nehemiah rebuilt the wall of Jerusalem with the help of several people, for in Nehemiah 3:1, Eliashib the high priest and his fellow priests rebuilt the sheep gate, and the fish gate was rebuilt by the sons of Hassenaah.

We will always need the support of people in everything we do as far as our destiny is concerned, and we should therefore not hesitate

to seek help when necessary, for seeking help is not a sign of weakness but a sign of wisdom.

We may need prayer support, material support, financial support, or wise counsel, and whatever the need may be, we should pray carefully about it and trust God to bring the right people into our lives.

As we come to the end of this thirty-day journey, may you go forth with renewed faith, great determination, and a deep assurance that God who has begun a good work in you is faithful and will carry it through to completion. Hold firm to your destiny, for it shall surely come to pass.

PRAYER:

Father, bless me with destiny helpers.

LESSON:

Seek help when necessary.

Holding Firm to Your Destiny is a book designed to encourage every believer to identify his or her destiny and to resist every work of the enemy that seeks to prevent them from entering into it. Through this book, you will discover how God's grace will help you maintain your destiny, guard it against every opposition, and hold firm to all that He has purposed for your life.

HOLDING FIRM TO YOUR DESTINY

with

**30-Day
Devotional
Journey**

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sheila is a committed Christian, worship leader, and gospel musician who is passionate about drawing people to Christ through the word of God. A holder of a Master of Arts in Ministry from Trinity Theological Seminary, she has served as a Bible study coordinator (Scripture Union), hosted a Children's Devotional Time on TV, and holds additional qualifications in MSc. Medical Laboratory Technology (KNUST) and MSc. Physician Assistantship (Central University).

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