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# KINGDOM VISION

VOLUNTEERING AND WORKING IN YOUR FATHER'S FIELD

PART 15

**DR. JOSEPH & MRS MERCY OLOWE-HOSTS**

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***And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.”***  
***(Habakkuk 2:2-3 KJV)***

### **VOLUNTEERING AND WORKING IN YOUR FATHER'S FIELD**

***“These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brethren; and the lad was with the sons of Bilhah, and with the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives: and Joseph brought unto his father their evil report.”*** (Genesis 37:2 KJV)

Nothing beats being on the right side of destiny. We learned from the last episode that knowing the will of God for our lives makes life sweet, and we also learned that understanding our vision in life enables us to live life on purpose. Luke 12:47-49 reveals to us that he or she who knows the will of God and doesn't follow suit shall be beaten with many stripes and he or she who doesn't know shall be beaten with few stripes. In other words, whatever amount of time we spend on finding out the vision of God for our lives, it is always a time well spent.

Let's briefly consider this passage from Apostle John,

***“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.”*** (1 John 5:14-15)

Knowing the vision of God for our lives builds confidence to do life and succeed extremely well. The above passage tells us that if we ask anything according to God's WILL, He hears us, and that this understanding should birth assurance in our lives that we will always receive answers from the throne of grace.

If I may ask you a quick question, “Have you been asking for something from God and it seems like your answers are not forthcoming?” My friend, you might want to check if your vision aligns with the purpose and plan of God for your life.

We have been looking at the life of Joseph as a template for knowing the plan and purpose of God for our lives. Joseph was able to dream and so he saw his future. However, I want to draw our attention to a critical aspect of the realization of his God-given dreams — the role his parents played in birthing the vision of God for their children.

We have established that God is the Vision-giver; He gets to choose whoever He will reveal His plan to. God called Joseph out at the age of seventeen and planted the vision of greatness in him, however, it was the same God Who called Samson out and gave his parents the picture of what his future would look like as well as the great assignment before him. In a sense, while Joseph succeeded in life, Samson failed; the question therefore arises: What's the difference between the two of them? Well, one major difference has to do with the influence of their parents on them.



## THE EFFECT OF PARENTS ON VISION FULFILLMENT

My goal is to show us the marked difference in how Jacob and Manoah influenced the vision of their children as well as how that played out. As a parent, we might be fortunate for God to make us a part of our kid's journey by revealing to us their purpose for living. Let's dive into the story of these two men.

### 1. THE CASE STUDY OF JOSEPH

***“And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.” (Genesis 37:5)***

Joseph was a direct beneficiary of God's benevolence. God came to him in a dream and showed what will become of him and his brothers. He took ownership of the dream and began to confess and do the needful for the vision to come to pass. While his brothers hated him for his dreams, his father was working behind the scenes to guide him along. Let's look at Genesis 37:11 to see what Jacob did to advance the purpose of God in Joseph's life.:

***“And his brethren envied him; but his father observed the saying.”***

The envy of his brothers was growing—a raging jealousy that was intended to derail the divine plan and purpose of this young man, however, his father mentored him. While Jacob didn't protect Joseph from his brothers well enough and while Jacob's special treatment of Joseph might have added fuel to the sibling rivalry between the brothers and Joseph, it was clear that Jacob bequeathed to Joseph a godly legacy by allowing him to discover himself and by providing guidance and mentoring for Joseph. At the end, the result was clear. Despite all that Joseph went through, he still fulfilled his destiny and became the prime minister in Egypt.

### THE CASE STUDY OF SAMSON

***“And the angel of the LORD appeared unto the woman, and said unto her, Behold now, thou art barren, and bearest not: but thou shalt conceive, and bear a son. Now therefore beware, I pray thee, and drink not wine nor strong drink, and eat not any unclean thing: for, lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head: for the child shall be a Nazarite unto God from the womb: and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.” (Judges 13:3-5 KJV)***

We see from the scriptures that the vision and purpose of Samson's life were given to his parents. Unlike Joseph, one could say that Samson got his mandate from second-hand information—and surely, there's nothing wrong with this divine arrangement (after all, God is sovereign and can choose to do His will through any method). The responsibility lies with us to manage whatever divinely revealed information we are privy to and ensure that it is delivered to the appropriate channel who will carry the mission out.

As we read further into Judges 13, we will see that Manoah's wife gave an accurate detail of what the angel told her and how he prayed that God will send the angel back. God honored this request and Manoah understood the instructions well regarding the prerequisites for the vision to be fulfilled.

There is a word of caution here to parents whom God has given the privilege to have an insight into the future of their children. They need to do the needful by sitting down with that child and pass on the vision as it has been delivered from heaven to them. In Samson's case, there was no record of where Samson's parents gave him the detailed instructions and discipline regarding his divine purpose. It has always been said that if we fail to know the purpose of a thing, its abuse is almost inevitable.

My suspicion is that Samson's parents did not allow him to develop a full sense of independence and maturity. While this is not explicitly stated in the narrative, it is not a baseless suspicion either. For all we know, his parents were always there in the story to clean up his mess. Parents let their children grow and make their own mistakes; they let them know what God has told them about their lives and make sure that the children understand the gravity and responsibilities attached to their purpose in life. Samson's insistent disregard of his consecration rites is indicative that he probably never fully understood the demand and the don'ts of his assignment.

If we compare the lives of Joseph and Samson, we can see that both fulfilled their mission—albeit in some sense—because the Word of God must come to pass, but at what cost to both of them? The difference was in how Jacob and Manoah handled their respective sons.

### CALL TO ACTION

Do you know the will of God for your life?  
 Are you struggling at this time?  
 Do you know the future of your children?  
 Have you allowed them to know those plans?  
 Have you encouraged them to take full responsibility?  
 Are you guiding them along the journey?

### PONDER ON THIS: "NO OPEN VISION"

*"And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was precious in those days; there was no open vision."  
 (1 Samuel 3:1 KJV)*

Dear parents, you may be the conduit God is going to use to speak to your children. Make sure that they understand the purpose of God for lives as delivered to you. You are the open vision for them.

### PRAYER POINTS

1. Father, give me the grace to adhere to the demands of the destiny You have ordained for me in Jesus' name.
2. I declare that I am victorious over every spirit sent to short-circuit my destiny in the name of Jesus.

PS: Reach out or pray for ten souls to be added to the Kingdom in your area. God bless you as you do so.