



## Chapter 12

# GET READY FOR THE OTHER SIDE

### PLAN FOR YOUR EXPANSION

*Now unto Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us - Ephesians 3:20 (NKJV)*

We have made it to the last chapter of this book. What a ride, what a journey to the Other Side. You will soon discover that shifts are starting to take place in your life and that you are not the only one at work. Once you create momentum in pursuit of your God-given purpose, destiny, and design, you leave God with no option but to lend a hand. When He gets involved, He always exceeds our expectations. Things will not always work out the way you would like them to work out, but with God, it always works out better. During the course of this journey you have asked, thought, and reflected, and did a lot. However, it has dawned on you that certain things are just beyond your human abilities, and some things just happened for you without you lifting a finger.

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Becoming and doing more is God's way of preparing you for expansion. God is busy working in you and through you to set you up for His expansion plan. Getting you to the Other Side is in most cases not your final destination, but the start of a brand new one. With your renewed competence and confidence gained, you will soon realise that you will be facing new and exciting seasons in your life. Whatever you have been through has in some way prepared you to be who you are, where you are, and for you to do what you do.

Coming from a home where my parents were divorced and struggling with the notion of marriage, little did I know that God would use me and my family to stand in ministry to help and restore many marriages and homes today.

Suffering with addiction most of my teen and young adult life, little did I know that this will open a door for me to minister and restore people who are suffering from addictions.

Growing up as a very shy and insecure boy, little did I know that I will help people today to find their unique voice. Once you get to the other side of things, don't be surprised about the new open doors that will await you.

*Therefore see that you **walk carefully** (living with **honor, purpose, and courage, shunning** those who tolerate and enable evil), not as the unwise, but as the wise (**sensible, intelligent, discerning** people), **making the very most of your time** (on earth, recognizing and taking advantage of each opportunity and using it with wisdom and diligence), because the days are (filled with) evil  
- Ephesians 5:15-16 (AMP)*

It is so important that you keep on walking. While life will require you to take time out to rest, timeout for renewal, timeout for healing, and restoration, it is important that you do that with the intention to keep on moving forward. Nothing will keep you moving forward as your purpose in life. Why you are here will be your ultimate driving force that will get you up in the morning even if you do not feel like it, to take on more and to expand, even if it does not make sense.

Shunning things that keep you away from your destiny and keeping your heart clean from unbelief will allow you to remain present every day so that you can make use of every opportunity that lies ahead of you. Living day-by-day, knowing that how well you live today will have a profound impact on your tomorrow will require you to end each day knowing that you have done your best for that day. We are encouraged not to live today with yesterday in mind as this will rob us of today and it will impact our tomorrow.

*So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.  
- Matthew 6:34 (AMP)*

**Bringing yesterday's or tomorrow's worries into today will rob you of today.** Expansion is seeing the opportunities presented to you every day to make a unique contribution that will set you up for tomorrow. A better today will ensure a better tomorrow. So be intentional about your day, as far as you can, every day.

On my 30th birthday, my wife decided to take me out on a very expensive romantic dinner to celebrate. She even bought me a special outfit for the occasion. While we were sitting down, surrounded by a romantic ambiance, I uttered the words looking into my wife's eyes: "What are we going to do tomorrow." That ruined the evening. I have come to realise, after twenty years of marriage, I have learnt that the two secrets: being present and making the most of every occasion, help you to experience expansion in marriage.

*When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into **deep water**, and let down the nets for a catch," Simon answered, "Master, we've **worked hard** all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets. When they had done so, they **caught** such a **large number** of fish that their nets began to break. So they **signaled their partners** in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled boats so full that they began to sink. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid, from now on you will **fish for people.**" Luke 5:5-7 & 10(NIV)*

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**It is always amazing to see how hard times have prepared us for expansion.** The hard times will be a prelude for growth and our time of expansion. Achieving things in life and experiencing abundance will never replace the need to continue to pursue your purpose on a much deeper or expanded way. Do not settle; do not conclude your journey before the time. Be ready to walk away or even start again if necessary, but never get to a place where you settle or give up. Wait and pursue your promotion from “fish for fish” to “fish for people” promotion. Wait and pursue your time when the things that kept you in bondage (Peter always wanted to be the best fisherman) will have no hold on you and you can walk away from them to live a more expanded life.

People play such an important role in our lives. Even Peter needed partners to accomplish certain things in his life. However, when the expanded opportunity arrived, he decided to walk away from them to pursue his expansion. God knows what and whom you need as He calls you to an expanded life. There will be new people and new voices for your new season.

I lost my Dad who played such an important role in my life not so long ago. While I miss him, I miss nothing in my life. When I look around me, I have new people and new voices in my life that fulfil the role that my father used to play. My father was a great supporter of the call that God has over my life. With his departure, I have seen the increase of many more supporters, great men and women that are standing behind me. My Dad used to bring a great sense of humour and laughter to my family home, today my wife and daughters and even I sometimes play that role more so than in the past. The point I am making is this: do not let loss rob you of seeing God’s provision over your life. Do not let loss rob you of seeing that God always provides what you need to complete your journey to the other side. You might be hanging out with a new crowd with a new set of circumstances, but if you look carefully, you will realise that what you need is always available to you to continue your expanded life.

*Therefore, since we receive a **kingdom** which **cannot be shaken**, let us **show gratitude**, and offer to God pleasing service and acceptable worship with reverence and awe. - Hebrews 12:28 (AMP)*

**Saying thank you and living a life of gratitude will send out a loud message that you and I understand what we have received.** There are certain things in our lives that cannot and will not be shaken. Our God-given purpose, destiny, and design submitted under His rule and governance cannot be shaken. Your outcome in the Lord is secured and guaranteed. Saying thank you for the small and big things in life will re-affirm your confidence in Him that God remains in charge. Saying “thank you” does something to God’s heart. When you say “thank you”, God is ready to bless you even more.

I see this with my daughters. Every time they say “Thank you” or show gratitude for what we do for them, great or small, we just want to do more for them. Gratitude allows God to spoil us with the necessary things that will expand our lives. Be on the outlook for moments and events where you can show gratitude to people around you. Look for opportunities where you can be of service to God showing your gratitude to Him as you revere His grace over your life.

This reminds me of a time in my life where we lost everything we had. We were in serious debt and all our creditors were looking for us to settle our debt. It became so bad that we could not even afford milk to put into our tea or coffee or buy nappies for our kids. I remember getting up one early morning sitting on my *stoep* sipping on a black cup of coffee. While I was talking to God about our situation, His goodness overwhelmed me. I started to laugh knowing that drinking black coffee or losing all our material things would not kill me, but that I do have everything I need to make a fresh start.

That sense of deep gratitude started the flow of God’s provision over our lives. Not long after that encounter, new job opportunities came our way and we could settle our debt in a very short space of time. Life did not return to normal. It returned to a better and brighter

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normal. Money never became an issue in our lives ever again as we continued to live a life of gratitude.

**Expansion is available to everyone who is willing to venture into the deep** to see life as an adventure where we overcome fictitious limitations and barriers, where we label loss as an opportunity to experience something new. It is a place where we see failure as our biggest opportunity to start again, just wiser, where we enjoy what we have and stop complaining about what we do not have, and where moving forward is a privilege and taking a pause a luxury.

*Do not be afraid of those who kill the body, but cannot kill the soul, but rather be afraid of Him who can destroy bought body and soul in hell - Matthew 10:28 (AMP)*

**Keep a balanced perspective in life.** Protect what you think, how you feel, and how you make sense of the world. In most cases, your perspective in life will determine the outcome of your life.

It is time to wrap things up. What a journey; what a ride. As you make progress to the Other Side; do not forget that it always starts at a place of taking stock and having a clear vision of where you want to go. Once you do that, trust God to order your steps.

**THANK YOU GOD FOR THIS AMAZING JOURNEY THAT YOU  
TOOK ME THROUGH!**