

G:love 14

What am I called to Be/Do In This Season Of Life?

Focused Living Ministries

Overwhelmed! Overcome! Overburdened! Every man juggles four types of balls. The priceless and irreplaceable **CRYSTAL BALLS** of relationships (the Lord, your family) and a few God given responsibilities/assignments which can never be dropped. **RUBBER BALLS** of projects or opportunities that must fall to the ground until they bounce back in another season of life when we have more time/wisdom. Large **WOODEN BALLS** which need to drop with a thud for some other stud! Many hollow **BUBBLE BALLS** of no real weight which we need to let float to the Father for Him to either burst or bear at His pleasure. How would you describe your priorities at present? How can you tell one type of ball from another? (James 1:5-8; Mt 6:33-34) Are there any shattered **Crystal Balls** which need repairing? **Rubber Balls** to let go for another season? **Wooden Balls** for another man to juggle? **Bubble Balls** to let God burst?



(Exodus 18:1-27) For a year wise ol' Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, cared for Moses' family while he was busy calling down plagues on Pharaoh, running from the Egyptian army, parting the Red Sea and leading 2.5 million people across the wilderness. Jethro saw that he was juggling too many balls and that his priorities were sideways. So with respect and grace he challenged Moses to rethink his life. Jethro understood God had called Moses to free His people but he also knew that God called him as a husband to be the spiritual servant-leader to his daughter (Zipporah) and nurturing father for his grandsons (Eliezer, Gershom) who needed a dad who would coach Little League, teach them to fish and lead family devotions using half sheets from the Focused Living Men's Forum. How important are healthy relationships with your extended family? What must you do to reconcile, build and maintain your extended family? Who is your "Jethro"? Who is your "Moses"? Contact your Jethro/Moses in order to thank, challenge, reconcile, support, forgive, pray, encourage or comfort.

With which phrase does your heart most identify? *"From morning until evening" (13, 14).* *"Why do you sit alone...you cannot do it alone" (14, 18).* *"The thing that you are doing is not good" (17)* *"You will surely wear out" (18).* *"The task is too heavy for you" (18).* Why?



(Ex 18:14-24) How is Jethro helping Moses respond to God's hand (G:Love)? How is he helping Moses to juggle his priorities? How did Moses respond? What character quality in **Numbers 12:3** does God say was the key to making Moses one of the world's all-time great leaders?

(Ex 18:14-17) What was Jethro really trying to help Moses admit as the core issue in determining his real priorities in this season of life? Hint: What was Moses' focus in verses 15-16?

1-Important and urgent Crystal	2-Important but not urgent Rubber
3-Urgent but not important Wooden	4-Not important and not urgent Bubble

List 10 of the balls you are currently juggling and number them using the graph above. What changes do you need to make? How? When? What good thing must you say 'NO' to in order to 'YES' to the best which God has called you to be and do in this season of your life?

(Ex 18:19-23) What are some of the simple yet powerful leadership principles of discipleship, delegation, priorities, excellence, productivity and boundaries that Moses needed to learn? Which do you need to implement immediately in the power of the Holy Spirit? How?

TAG TEAM What challenge from the Lord do you need to apply in order to align your priorities more closely with what He has called you to be and in this season of your life?

ASSIGNMENT Write your Life Mission Statement





WRITING YOUR LIFE MISSION STATEMENT

Focused Living Ministries

“Commit your works to the Lord, and your plans will be established. The mind of man plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps”. Prov 16:3, 9

Our sovereign Father appointed the year of your birth and has already destined the exact moment of your death. He has given you the awesome privilege of determining the ‘dash’ (span of your life) in between. Many men are like the main character of Forest Gump... the feather. They **DRIFT** through life by the winds of fate, allowing their circumstance or culture to **DRIVE** their life rather than allowing God to **DIRECT** it. Some men have a mission statement for their work to provide focus and productivity, but the majority of God’s men have never clearly defined with a single statement the reason for their existence. You will either continue to dash through life or you will develop a mission statement in order to put life into your dash!

Concerning life priorities you have 3 choices. You can get blown around by the turbulent winds of culture while **drifting** from project to project, position to position, and task to task. You can be **driven** by the fears and demands of life, the tyranny of the urgent, and the unrealistic expectations of others. Or, you can choose to stop and ask your Creator for **directions!** To balance the demands of life you must become so **focused** on Christ that you are **living** out the priorities of Christ. A Life Mission Statement is not a goal to be accomplished or objective or obtain. It is a **compass** to give direction for life’s daily decisions; a **rudder** to steer you through the stormy demands of life; a **map** to help you understand where you are along life’s trail; the all **important big picture** on the puzzle box so you can put together the seemingly unrelated pieces of your jigsaw life.

PRAYERFULLY JOURNAL THE ANSWERS TO THESE ?s

1. What is God calling me to **BE** and **DO** as a man, husband, father during this season (2-3 years) of life?
2. For what do I want to be remembered on my tombstone?
3. What is very important to God which should be important to me?
4. What passions, talents and abilities must I use to glorify God?
5. To what must I give my remaining years that will outlive me?
6. If I knew that I could not fail, what would I be doing for the Lord?
7. Through what failure must I grow? Upon what success must I build?
8. If I had only 3 years left to live, how would I use it to glorify God?
9. How can I use the rest of my life to leave a legacy not just a lineage?

CHOOSE A SCRIPTURE which God can use to draw your heart back to His focus for your life. Here are a few suggestions.

- **Matt. 6:33** *But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you.*
- **John 17:3** *This is eternal life that I may know Him, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.*
- **Matt 22:37-39** *You shall love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength and love your neighbor as yourself.”*
- **1 Cor. 15:58** *Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.*
- **John 3:30** *He must increase and I must decrease.*
- **Col. 3:17, 24-25** *Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father. Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men... It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.*
- **II Tim. 2:1-2** *You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.*
- **Matt 28:19-20** *Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.*
- **Gal 2:20** *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.*
- **Phil. 3:10-14** *That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death... forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ.*
- **John 3:30** *He must increase and I must decrease.*
- **Phil. 1:21** *For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*
- **Phil. 2:3-4** *Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind let each of you regard one another as more important than himself; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.*
- **Luke 5:10** *Do not fear, from now on you will be catching men.*
- **Col. 1:28-29** *We proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ. And for this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me.*
- **1 Tim. 1:5** *But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.*

- **Heb. 12:1-2** *Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*
- **Rom. 12:1-2** *I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.*
- **John 14:15,21** *If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. He who has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me; and he who loves Me shall be loved by My Father, and I will love him, and will disclose Myself to him.*
- **Ps. 46:10** *Cease striving and know that I am God.*
- **Ps. 139:23-24** *Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts; and see if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me in the everlasting way.*
- **Ps. 37:3-5** *Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness. Delight yourself in the Lord; and He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord.*
- **Josh. 1:7-9** *Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go. This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success. Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.*
- **Josh. 24:15** *Choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.*
- **Matt. 6:19-21** *Do not lay up for yourselves treasures upon earth... But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven... for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*
- **Mic. 6:8** *He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.*
- **1 Chr. 16:8-11** *Oh give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples. Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; Speak of all His wonders. Glory in His holy name; Let the heart of those who seek the Lord be glad. Seek the Lord and His strength; Seek His face continually.*
- **II Chr. 16:9** *The eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His.*

WRITE OUT A SHORT LIFE MISSION STATEMENT based on your verse(s) or one for each of the areas of your life. Example: **LIFE** (Heb 12:2) To become so focused on Christ that I am living for Christ in every area of my life so that He receives the glory, others see/hear the gospel and I get the growth. **MARRIAGE** (Eph 5:25-27) To become the spiritual servant leader in my marriage by dying daily to what I want so that I can live as a servant to my wife needs. **FAMILY** (Eph 6:4; Job 1:5) To model for, teach to and train up my children, life principles teaches me as His child in such a way that it eternally impacts the next 3 generations. **VOCATION** (Col 3:23-24) To work each day with excellence, integrity and passion in order to honor Christ and to make a difference in the lives of others.

IN RESPONSE TO GOD'S HAND IN MY LIFE MY MISSION IS TO ...

Be prepared to share these in your TAG Team.

EVALUATE In light of your mission statement how will you specifically change as to bring your current priorities, decisions, life style, goals, desires and ambitions more into line with what God desires for the dash in your life?

