

## *Yes You Can Maximize Your Life and Fulfill Your Purpose With God!*

Some of you may be confused...You may lack direction or vision...You may have tried before and simply given up on living a fulfilling and purposeful life.

It can seem pretty impossible from where you are sitting. I'm not there with you and I don't know exactly what you are going through, but I do know this:

I KNOW HOW TO **BEGIN**.

That's Good News! (*Did you know the word 'Gospel' really means Good News?*)

My Good News for you today is this:

God wants you to fulfill your divine plan and purpose even more than you do. The only reason that you sit in confusion is because you don't really know who you are in Christ. You are looking at things from a very limited viewpoint (your current situation) and guess what? Your current situation is temporary and subject to change. We can speed up the 'changing' part by realizing and embracing who we are in Christ and walking in the provision that has been given to us.

Once you take that first step, God promises that He will lead you and guide you.

"The steps of a righteous man are ordered by the Lord." Psalm 37:23

"Your ears will hear a word behind you saying, This is the way, walk in it, whenever you turn to the right or to the left." Isaiah 30:21

You don't have to be confused. You don't have to live with a lack of direction. You CAN maximize your life and fulfill your purpose with God!

After reading these next 5 articles, entitled the WHO AM SERIES, you will know exactly what is available to you and you'll be well equipped to begin your exciting journey into YOUR DESTINY!

## The *Who Am I* Series

### Do You Know Who You Are?

Word Count - 675

Keywords & Keyword Phrases: depression (3x), salvation (6x), failure (2x), finances (2x), anxiety (2x), divorce (1x)

lack of finances (2x), hurt and confused (2x)

Metat- Description: Basic introduction to learning who you are in Christ and how to get out of the defeated, unhealthy mindset you may be living in.

Combing the shelves of any Barnes & Noble will give you some keen insight as to where we are as a society. There is a section for the history buff, another for the fiction lover, a section for hobbies and do-it-yourselfers - and if you keep walking you'll run right into the 'self help' section. It's huge. There are so many books on relationships, depression, addiction, and anxiety that they warrant their own segment of the bookstore. What does that tell you? Well, it tells



me that there are thousands, if not millions of hurt and confused people who are walking in a constant state of inner turmoil.

Amazingly, no one has to live like this, and the answer is so much easier than you think. If you are sitting in confusion or involved in a painful and depressing situation right now, it can be difficult to see the way out. So, what's the answer? A change in perception.

The main problem is the way you 'perceive' a problem or difficulty in your life. If you judge everything according to the existence of problems or trials, you will be left with a hopeless defeated outlook whenever the going gets tough. A defeated perception will cause you to act on the deception and walk deeper and deeper into defeat. After a while you'll get to the point where the acceptance hurt and confusion has become a way of life.

It doesn't have to be that way. Do you want to know what will impact you emotionally, physically and spiritually, causing you to walk in a level of peace and success that you've never known? --Walking in the knowledge of 'who you are' in Christ.

If you have accepted salvation, you have received a new identity. Old things have been left behind and all things have become new. Salvation isn't merely a fire escape that will assure your entrance into heaven. The actual word salvation, is 'soteria' in the Greek. The definition of soteria is; "deliverance, safety, preservation, healing and redemption from all earthly ills."

Many times we think of salvation in the future tense, as something to experience someday in heaven or eternity. Salvation is NOW. Once you recognize and accept your identity in Christ, you'll be able to walk in the freedom and success that God has provided for you. He has given you redemption from *earthly ills*. Earthly ills include depression, anxiety, a looming divorce, a lack of finances, or any other problem you are facing.

God tells us in Isaiah 53:4 that "*Jesus **has** surely borne our sicknesses, weaknesses, and distresses and carried our sorrows and pains.*" He **already** did it. God has given us everything we need to be a whole, happy, healthy, and prosperous individual here on this earth.

You may be saying, "Sure, but you are not going through what I am going through. You have no idea what I'm experiencing." -- and you may be right. Your situation could seem impossible right now. Your relationship may be on the brink of failure, your job on the line, lack of finances closing in around you, or your health may be failing.

But that doesn't change the truth of God's salvation and what He has provided for you. So, I suppose we have somewhat of a dilemma going on...

If God has provided and paid for your deliverance from sickness, poverty, emotional bondage, depression and failure, but you are still experiencing it--then something needs to change

How do your circumstances change? By believing in the Truth. The Word assures us that We will know the Truth, and the Truth will make us free. Believing the truth of God's Word will literally cause changes to the physical realm and turn your current situation from what it is now, to what God's Word says it is.

Want to know more? Read on to the next section entitled "Why the Lie" where you will learn how to step out from under the lies of the enemy and walk in wholeness, freedom and provision.

## Why the Lie?

Word Count: 653

Keyword & Keyword Phrases: salvation (2x), anxiety (1x), sickness (2x), confused (1x) financial (1x), depressed (1x)

who you are (2x), find out who you are (2x) maximize your life (2x)

Meta-description: There is a reason why you sit in confusion and darkness. The lies and deception of the enemy would hope that the truth would never be revealed to you.

Now that you've read *Do You Know Who You Are*, you've taken the first step to maximize your life as a child of God. That includes peace, success, healthy relationships, clear thinking and a healthy body.

So, why the lie? When all of the goodness of God already belongs to us, how do we get caught in the trap of deception? Easy....we are trained to believe in what we see and what we feel emotionally instead of what the Truth is. The enemy certainly doesn't want us to realize who



we really are. If we start walking in the promises of God, we could actually start doing things that make a difference and becoming a threat to the kingdom of darkness. If we stay beat down and defeated by our circumstances, we'll never accomplish anything.

If you've ever seen *The Matrix*, the movie gives a perfect illustration of what really happens in the kingdom of God.

Just like the movie, there are two types of reality you can choose to experience. One is called a 'fact' and the other is called the 'Truth.' ...What's the difference?

I'll explain. It may be a 'fact' that you are experiencing sickness, a 'fact' that you feel depressed, or a 'fact' that it looks like your world is falling apart around you.

But the 'truth' is that you've been delivered from all of that. You've been made whole and complete through the power of salvation. The 'Truth' is whatever God's Word says, regardless of what you may be currently experiencing.

So, if we have two conflicting situations here--guess what? One of them is subject to change. One of them has to bow. When a fact is confronted with Truth, the Truth wins every time. But it's going to take action on your part to actually experience the 'change.'

It is your job as a believer to find out who you are in Christ and what you are entitled to. Once you do, then start stepping into it. It's just like putting on your shoes in the morning. You can choose to walk in what God has provided just as easily as you choose to put on your favorite running shoes.

Want to know the best part? Once you dig into the Word to find out who you are and what you are entitled to, that's it. Your part is finished. All you have to do is believe that according to Isaiah 53:5, you are healed. You don't have to know how it's going to happen, just believe that it is yours and that it will happen.

Below is a short list of promises that tell you some of the things that belong to you as part of your covenant of salvation. Start applying these Truths to the facts in your life and the facts will have to change:

- **Confused?** *You have the mind of Christ* 1Corinthians 2:16
- **Worried that you are Inadequate?** *You have been blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.* Ephesians 1:3 This means you are fully equipped for all things.
- **Financial trouble?** *He will make your way prosperous, and you will have good success.* Joshua 1:8
- **Sickness?** *He was wounded for our transgressions...and by His stripes we are healed.* Isaiah 53:5
- **Anxiety and Worry?** *He will be kept in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You: because he trusts in You.* Isaiah 26:2-4

I think you can clearly see that for any and every situation, the Truth of God's Word can be applied. When Truth is applied to a situation or 'fact,' the situation must change. The fact has to line up with what God's Word promises.

You have a covenant with God, sealed in His own blood. Hold your head up. You are a child of the most high God. Start walking in what your Father has given you. Maximize your life today!

## The Price of Destiny

Word Count: 731

Keywords & Keyword Phrases: salvation (7x), destiny (3x), addictions (2x)

eternal salvation (2x), your destiny (2x), the price Jesus paid (2x), the blood of Jesus (2x)

Meta-description: After you realize how much has been done and provided for you....you will feel well equipped and confident to step into your destiny. Depression, fear, anxiety and confusion will no longer have a place in your thoughts.

"God has a plan and purpose for your life." I've heard that said a thousand times. Funny thing is; it's true. We all were placed on this earth to fulfill a divine purpose. Each of us has been given certain talents and gifts that stand out from the rest of our personality. Maybe you don't notice what your gifts are, but I guarantee you that people around you do.

Are you an encourager; the person that tells everyone else that they can accomplish their hopes and dreams? Or maybe you have the gift of gab, you can talk to any person, anywhere at any time. Hint: If you make conversation with every cashier you encounter and even talk to people in public restrooms, you have the gift. Generally the charisma involved with talking to complete strangers is directly related to the gift of evangelism. God can easily turn a conversation toward Him, if you let Him.



In order to maximize your life and fulfill your purpose with God, it is important to have two distinct qualities. The first, is a willingness to step into your destiny--to do whatever it is that God has in store for you. The second--is a realization of the price Jesus paid to offer you a destiny, a gift, a purpose and a calling for your life.

When talking about the price Jesus paid on your behalf, your thoughts may turn immediately to the cross, the physical pain, and the mental anguish He went through for us--and rightly so. Shedding His own blood on the cross for our sins, was more horrific than most people can begin to imagine, but that's not what I want to talk about.

I want to tell you about how COMPLETE the payment was. This is much more important than you may think. Have you ever been involved in a court case? Have you ever investigated the laws on a particular issue? If you have, then you are well aware that most judicial systems are not without their fair share of flaws. The outcome of numerous court cases

relies on the ability of the craftier attorney's ability to twist things in favor of his client, and to find loopholes in the law when necessary.

Well, I have good news for you today. When God sent His Son to pay the price for your sins, your sickness, your addictions, your emotional bondage, and your failures, He didn't leave any loopholes. Not even one.

He paid the price in full and even gave you His identity so you would be seen as a completely different person, a new creation in Christ. If you have received salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ, you are seen as a clean and holy person every time you come to God in prayer. Nothing relies on your actions or accomplishments. It all relies on what He did. God's judicial system is without fail.

Once you repent for your sins, God sees you through the blood of Jesus, and He sees a perfect, holy individual standing before Him. Isn't it awesome and humbling that nothing depends on you? All you are required to do is believe (have faith) in the free gift of salvation, and agree to follow His ways. Your eternal salvation has nothing to do with your personal righteousness or what you have done to 'deserve' salvation. We can never do enough to 'deserve' it.

We may grow in our walk with God and eventually become more and more like Him. As His Spirit fills our life we will give up old habits, addictions and destructive behavior patterns. Instead, we will be filled with the peace, understanding and love of God. Even then, when we have changed into a person who embraces the ways of Christ--we still are not worthy of salvation in our own right. Always remember that no matter how close to God you become, or how far into your destiny you delve...your eternal salvation still completely relies on what He did, not what we can do. That's what frees us from the worry of loopholes. Salvation is a gift, and there is nothing that can take that gift from us.

*"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2: 8-9*

## A Toxic Cleansing for Your Brain

Word Count: 826

Keywords & Keyword Phrases: health (2x), lust (2x),

renewing your mind (2x), renew your mind (2x),

Meta-description: As we realize the benefits of cleansing our body of poisonous built up toxins, let's also take the time to recognize the deadly thought patterns and emotional bondages that keep us from walking in freedom.

Over the past decade, an increased awareness of holistic health and a return to wholesome foods and natural ingredients has spawned an entire health movement. More individuals than ever rely on fasting and colon cleansing regimes to rid their bodies of toxins and deadly poisons that can make them ill, or even begin the process of cancer cell reproduction.



Keeping your body toxin free and working properly is certainly important. But let's not stop there. Many times our minds become stuck in cycles of defeat. This can stem from a lack of peace due to damaged emotions, deep seated bitterness and unforgiveness. Bottom line, our polluted minds are affecting every part of our lives.

The Word tell us how important it is to keep our minds toxin free. But how accomplish this? How do we perform a cleanse on our brain and experience long lasting freedom from mind pollution? As with every other dilemma, the Word has the answer.

Step I - Renew Your Mind:

Did you know that your mind can be renewed? All the negativity, fear, and bitterness can be replaced with positive thoughts. All you have to do is put them in there. Renewing your mind is a continuous, present tense action of walking in the Word of God.

- *And be not conformed to this world; but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good, and acceptable and perfect will of God.*  
Romans 12:2

- *With regard to your former way of life, put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds* Ephesians 4:22-23.

Watchman Nee realized the dilemma of our stinking thinking when he said, "How many of God's children, although saved and possessing a new life still carry around their old head. Nothing of their former theories, thought processes, or prejudices have been altered; only a Christian casing has been added."

If you hold on to the same thought patterns, nothing will ever change in your life. Make the choice to renew your mind. Fill yourself with the Word of God on a daily basis. The Word will cleanse you, strengthen you, and change you from the inside out.

## Step II - Take Every Thought Captive

Renewing your mind by constantly filling yourself with the Word of God is the first step. Step two is to take every thought captive.

Living the Christian life involves a war that wages in your thought life. An individual doesn't become truly changed or conformed into the image of Christ by adjusting their behavior. The thoughts are what must be changed. "As a man thinks, so is he."

So, how do you change your thinking? I'm glad you asked. The Word tells us this:

- *Casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.*  
II Corinthians 10:5

I like to explain it this way. (Once you get a hold of this, you will be released from any ounce of condemnation from some to the strange thoughts that enter your mind.)

Ready for the good news? Every thought is NOT your thought. That's right. If you are a born again believer sitting at your desk at work and suddenly a lustful thought enters your mind for no apparent reason, it's not your thought. The thought was presented to you and if you accept it and say to yourself, "Hey, yea I'll think about that for a while," then it **becomes** your thought. You took ownership of it when you decided to go ahead with the lust filled movie in your mind. That's why the Word tells us to **bring into captivity** every thought to the obedience of Christ.

Your mind should never be allowed to run rampant like an out of control toddler on a sugar rush. As believers it is our responsibility to watch over our thoughts and immediately kick the thoughts out that are ungodly. That can be done by simply saying to ourselves, "No, I choose not to think about lust and sin. You said in Your Word that I have the mind of Christ. Thank you Jesus for protecting my mind from impure thoughts."

At first it will seem difficult and tedious to regulate your mind, especially if you've always let your mind run wild. After a while it will become easier until you really don't have to try anymore.

Your mind is the pathway the enemy uses to get access to your life. Put a filter on your thought life. Start with this verse from Philippians 4:8 *“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”*

## I've Made My Decision...Now What?

Word Count: 562

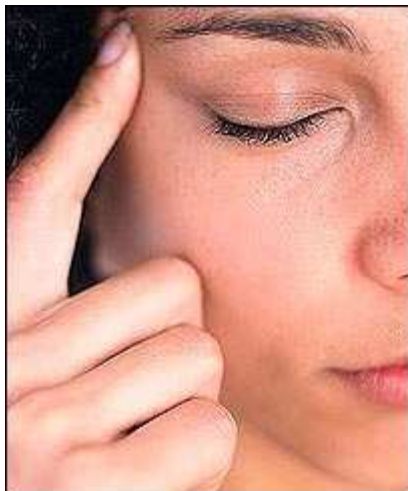
Keywords & Keyword Phrases: maximize your life (1x) fulfill your purpose with God (1x) your walk with God (2x), the Word of God (2x),

Meta-description: As a Christian, you will often face resistance from the enemy, trying to get you off of the track of your destiny. What can you do to overcome?

You know who you are and you agree that you need to change. You are willing to renew your mind, cleanse your thoughts, purify your heart and walk in the right direction. You are ready to maximize your life and fulfill your purpose with God. Now what? Unfortunately, you'll probably be attacked. If you learn to recognize the resistance you are facing for what it really is (an attack of the enemy) you can become a true over-comer.

If you've been a Christian for any period of time, you should be quite aware of the tactics of the enemy. But just to be sure you face every day with your eyes wide open, here is solid truth straight from the Word of God. "*Your adversary the devil, walks about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.*" 1 Peter 5:8

Did you notice the scripture says that our adversary walks around seeking whom he **may** devour? That tells me that we are not always in a position when we are vulnerable to his tactics. But when we are, there he is waiting for us.



The enemy of your soul doesn't play fair, and he's got plenty of time on his hands. He spends weeks and even months, observing you and strategically planning his next move. He is well aware of the basic frailties of man and also tries to discover your own personal weaknesses as well.

He waits until you are down, lonely, vulnerable or confused and uses that opportunity to creep into your thoughts. He's also quite good at appearing on the scene as soon as you slip in your walk with God. He is called 'the accuser of the brethren.' He will tempt you to fail and if you take the bait and stumble, he will be right there pointing an accusing finger, letting you know how you've let God down.

When battling against these lies, what can you do? I've got a two step answer for you:

### Recognize and Resist

If individuals are treating you poorly, there is tension in the air, situations seem volatile, or you are being attacked with temptations from every side, **recognize** the cause of it.

The word tells us, *For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.* Ephesians 6:12

The enemy is causing the pressure and tension you are feeling. It's an effort to interfere with your walk with God. If you are not a believer, his goal is to keep you from becoming one--and if you are a follower of Christ, his plan is to cause you to be ineffective and rob you of your zeal, excitement and joy of the Lord.

Basically, his whole game is to intimidate us with fear, distract us from the purposes of God and tempt us with sin.

Solution: "*Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.*" James 4:7

That's the only answer you need. The Word of God promises us that if we will resist, he has to flee. It's part of the contract. Isn't God good?

Now that you are equipped with the knowledge of how the enemy operates, you are able to recognize and resist. Kick him to the curb with the power of God's word.