

How to Steward Your Destiny

By Trevor H. Lund



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In the garden the serpent asked “Did God really say...?” (Genesis 3:1) and that’s a question satan keeps asking us today. It is so easy for us to forget the promise God has spoken to us. They are like to seed that falls in the rocky ground:

The seed on the rocky soil represents those who hear the message and immediately receive it with joy. But since they don't have deep roots, they don't last long. They fall away as soon as they have problems or are persecuted for believing God's word. Matthew 13:20-21 (New Living Translation)

As soon as problems come, the joy of the seed that’s planted is forgotten. You and I need to remember the prophetic promises given to us.

I don’t want to say, “I have 5 steps for you.” because these steps are fluid and not always in the order that we’ll see in the portion of Scripture where I’m going to draw them out. Let’s call them “points.”

And it’s not that you evaluate once in your life and you’re onto something else. Every time you have a transition, a change or a new adventure you may need to go through this process.

Also, I haven’t been able to find a timeline for these points. Sometimes I go through them in an afternoon, other times it takes me years. But there is wisdom in knowing the process of stewarding a prophetic word.

Let's see how a woman who had nothing but problems did it.

2 Kings 4:1-7 - Elisha and the Widows Oil

The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that he revered the LORD. But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves."

Elisha replied to her, "How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?"

"Your servant has nothing there at all," she said, "except a little oil."

Elisha said, "Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don't ask for just a few. Then go inside and shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and as each is filled, put it to one side."

She left him and afterward shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring. When all the jars were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another one."

But he replied, "There is not a jar left." Then the oil stopped flowing.

She went and told the man of God, and he

said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debts. You and your sons can live on what is left."

Here's what I've picked up from this story about stewarding a prophetic word.

Point 1 - Seek counsel from wise sources

The woman had a problem and she went to the prophet.

I often get the question when someone has a life-changing experience with God, "How do I know God's timing?"

There's no formula for this. Sometimes God speaks and we know we need to do it now. Other times there is nothing we can do about it now, so we wait with expectation. Sometimes we get a word that just doesn't make sense to us in the moment.

It's OK. Learn how to steward it.

The Bible says six times (Deuteronomy 17:6, 19:15; Matthew 18:16; 2 Corinthians 13:1; 1 Timothy 5:19; Hebrews 10:28) that things must be confirmed by two or three witnesses. You don't need to be running off the first time you hear something.

It's OK to wait and ponder. In the upcoming points I'll show you how you can. Before we get there however,

there are two things you need to know once God has confirmed His call with two or three witnesses:

1. Don't get caught up getting confirmation

James tells us that when we ask for wisdom God will give it, without finding fault. But if we don't believe we're getting the wisdom we ask for, we'll be double-minded and tossed like a wave of the sea (James 1:5-6). Know God is speaking to you. You're his sheep, you know His voice.

You can't get a home run if you don't swing. Too many people are afraid to swing the bat. They're waiting for that perfect pitch. Listen - it's OK to strike out. It's not OK to strike out without swinging. (Well, it is...you're still under grace. I just don't want to push the analogy too far.) The point is - hear and obey - don't try to re-hear and re-hear and re-hear. Don't merely listen to the word, do what it says. (James 1:22)

2. He might not give clear direction again until you obey the first command.

I learned this one the hard way.

God told me starting a web design business was going to be a waste of time. I thought that was just for while we were in New Zealand. When I returned to Canada, I had all kinds of ideas for businesses and started a publishing house, a web design, graphic design, editing, SEO and printing business.

I was waiting for Him to tell me “No” again. I was simply doing what made sense for me to do.

Five years later I was looking for direction and God took me back to the day I knew in my spirit He said, “It’s a waste of time” and I knew the last five years in business were. He then reminded me of his audible voice saying, “I’ve given you time to write.” Then I felt Him ask me, “Did I ever tell you to stop writing?”

I didn’t start anything without seeking God first. When He gave no direct sense, I assumed He was letting me use my common sense and skills. What I learned later was that He had spoken and He was waiting for me to obey.

Looking back, I see it’s not that simple. He was telling me through my wife and through other people asking me to write for them and through a stranger who heard me on the radio talk about my books tell me, “That’s what you need to be doing,” that God was giving me direction, but I wasn’t picking up on it. Instead I was letting the giant of “You’ll-never-make-a-living-from-writing” drown out the call of God to write.

Even if you see the destination and can’t get there from where you’re at, I’ll show you how you can start moving towards that direction with your thoughts, speech and actions.

Point 2 - Look to What You Have

The woman was asked what she had. It was oil.

I'm assuming you have a prophetic word, but what if you don't? It doesn't mean God isn't interested in your destiny. It may simply mean you've never been in a place to get or understand a prophetic word. That's not a problem, there are three things you can do to find out God's plans for your life.

1. Consider Your Nature

God loves how He's made you. The gifts and passions are not mistakes. You weren't born into the wrong family to pick up bad habits. Sure, we all need to get over some of them. But He's given us a unique perspective and passion to live. It's good. It's valuable. It's holy.

Stop thinking God's a kill-joy that will only ask you to do things that you say, "I'll never do...." That's not Biblical and yet I hear it from the most amazing people.

What's Biblical is the Father knit you together in your mother's womb and wrote all your days in a book before one of them came to be (Psalm 139:13-16). He wants the best for you and has given you your dream.

Here's questions you can ask yourself to start defining those dreams:

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