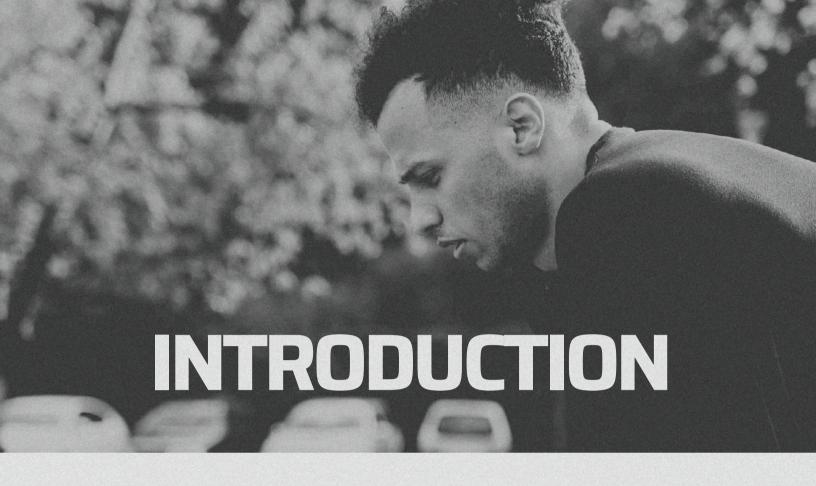
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Are you overwhelmed and frustrated because you feel like you should be further along in life than where you currently are? Are you struggling with the thought that you should have it all together by now?

You're not alone.

Whether you're a student, a young adult or just someone looking for direction and encouragement for navigating life, this plan is for you.



HUDDLEFORHOPE.CO

Equipping Athletes Empowering Faith Engaging Community

DAY ONE

You're Not Supposed To Have It All Together.

Have you ever just sat back (or screamed in the shower at the top of your lungs), "What am I even doing with my life?!!" If you feel me, keep reading.

Somehow as a society we've come up with the idea that we're supposed to have life all figured out by a certain age or once we hit a major life milestone. We're supposed to know our calling, our purpose, who we are marrying, and be working in our dream career, just to name a few.

These unrealistic expectations quickly turn into toxic thoughts that tell us that we are failing at life and not as far along as we should be. These lies overwhelm us and we are left feeling frustrated, defeated, stressed out and quite simply, stuck.

Maybe that's where you are right now.

You feel stuck in continual swirls of confusion as you try to figure out your next steps. You want to make moves but you need guidance because you really don't know where to start and you're scared to make a wrong decision.

Can I calm your fears for a second?

You're not supposed to have it all together and you don't have to go through all of these twists and turns by yourself. If you could figure it all out by yourself, there would be no need for faith, and it is your faith that you will need to stand on in the triumphs and trials that life will bring.

You can rest in knowing that you were created with purpose, for a purpose. The path that God has laid out for you is meant to be explored while leaning on His strength, not your own. To rely on your own limited knowledge to make decisions is far too much for you to do alone. He wants to give you wisdom as you seek Him.

God offers us all a beautiful invitation to choose Him above all else in this world so we don't have to feel bogged down with the heaviness of trying to figure life out all out by ourselves. Putting God first in every area of your life is a choice and a day-to-day decision and trust me when I say, it is so worth it.

As you lean on God for wisdom to navigate life, you will begin to see that He is directing your steps and getting you to where He wants you to go. If you want to live a purpose-driven life and fulfill the plan that He has already set for you, begin by choosing to ask God to come into your heart so you can feel His love and receive His guidance for the rest of your life. You can start by praying to God now:

Dear God, I don't want to walk out this life without you. I can't do it on my own. Please forgive me of my sins. Thank you for being my Savior and I ask that you would come into my heart. Holy Spirit, fill me and guide me through this life. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

DAY ONE

SCRIPTURES

JEREMIAH 1:5

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

JEREMIAH 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

2 CHRONICLES 7:14

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

JOHN 3:16

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

ROMANS 10:9

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Stop Striving For Success.

Whenever we scroll through social media, we are bombarded with constant reminders of the importance of achieving success. Before we know it, our mindless scrolling turns into a cycle of self-doubt and feeling unworthy because everyone else's lives appear to be perfect in every way.

The problem with allowing other people to define success for our lives is that the world's definition of success is almost always completely contradictory to God's definition of lasting, eternal success and purpose.

When we choose to agree with the noise of this loud world and value their opinions instead of forming our own convictions given by God and His Word, we end up comparing our personal journey to everyone else's around us. And then we wonder why we feel worn out and overwhelmed.

The world tells us every day that true purpose and success lies in fame, having a blue check by your name on social media, accomplishing something so significant that the world knows, or being acknowledged, seen and adored by man.

God, on the other hand, says that true purpose and success is to love God and to love people.

We overcomplicate success and purpose. We try to mix achieving societal expectations with God's convictions, and they were never meant to be in the same pot.

My prayer is that we choose to believe what God says about living a life of purpose over what culture feeds us daily. If you're frustrated in trying to figure out what your purpose is, don't be.

Regardless of what job position you are currently in; whether you're in a cube at a job that you don't like or a student struggling to get by on Raman Noodles every night (been there, done that), you are living a life of purpose and achieving Godly success when you are faithful where you are, with what you've been given, and you choose to intentionally love God and love people that cross your path.

Regardless of the position you are in, your purpose always remains the same.

Love God. Love people.

This concept is one that the world likely won't celebrate or clap for because many people are eager to draw attention to themselves and fill the holes in their hearts by accomplishing the world's definition of success. It's a trap, and it will never provide us with the true love and acceptance that only God can fill us with.

Will we live for the claps or will we live for the call?

Are we going to choose to live for God or live for man? Are we living for the "well done good and faithful servant" or are we going to choose to live for a temporary accomplishment, applause or award that we can't take with us to Eternity? Because please know, at the end of our lives, we will not stand before man or anyone who was cheering for us and giving us all the clout on social media.

We will stand in front of God, who calls us to do one thing: to love God and to love people.

Choose wisely.

DAY TWO

SCRIPTURES

MARK 12:30-31

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. 31 The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'There is no commandment greater than these."

MATTHEW 28:19

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

JOHN 4:34

"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.

JOSHUA 24:15

But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

ROMANS 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

DAY THREE

Stop Striving & Let God Connect The Dots.

In my life, I've found that what comes from God flows and is not forced.

The Bible says that God withholds no good thing from those who walk uprightly. Yet for some reason, as humans, we feel like we have to have control over everything in order to receive what He has for us. The best gifts are those that are freely given by God and His grace, not us manipulating situations or forcing things into our lives that were never meant to fit.

One of the most freeing thoughts is knowing that if God has called you to do something for Him, He has already equipped you to do it and He has a plan for getting you the resources you need to accomplish it.

There is no need to fear or to stress about how everything will come together because you can trust that as long as you're committing your plans to Him and keeping Him first, He's going to get you to where you're supposed to be, in the season you're supposed to be there.

If God lays something on your heart for you to do, He will be faithful to provide the wisdom, guidance and nudges by the power of His Holy Spirit to keep you on the right path. If you happen to make a poor decision or get off course, you can be confident in knowing that God will help you get back on track.

There is no need for you to exhaust yourself by striving and getting burned out trying to figure out your next steps. In my experience, hard work and grace always produce much more fruit than our striving ever will.

God is strategic and the best at connecting the dots of your life for the greater purpose. He will be sure to cross your path with the people that He wants you to meet in the timing that He wants you to meet them. He will equip you with the skill sets you need to be in the rooms that He is calling you to and the opportunities He has already planned for you to take.

Your only responsibility is to submit your plans to God, obey Him, and seek Him first above all else. When you do that, you can rest in knowing that He will guide you in every decision and every twist and turn because your steps are ordered by the Lord.

DAY THREE

SCRIPTURES

PROVERBS 16:9

In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.

PSALM 37:23-24

The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him; though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand.

PSALM 84:11

For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.

ISAIAH 30:21

Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it."

JOHN 15:16

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

DAY FOUR

You're Not Running Out of Time.

I heard a quote a few years ago that has stuck with me ever since. "Our hindsight is just us finally catching up to God's vision for us all along." I think of that a lot.

It's funny (and a little frustrating) how we never really see what God is doing in the moment of a situation but whenever we look back at our lives in hindsight, we always see that God's timing was perfect; not a moment too soon or a moment late.

If we always knew what was going to happen and when things were going to happen, we wouldn't need to cling to God for every step in our journey. In fact, we wouldn't need Him at all.

We might not always be able to understand what God is doing but we can always trust His heart for us. One of my daily prayers is that God would help me to trust Him more each day, and to trust that He is sovereign and that He sees everything in my past, present and future the whole picture - not just the chapter that seems so overwhelming to me today. Knowing this truth always reminds me that His timing is perfect.

We can rest because we know that God knows how our situations are going to turn out before we even get into them. Nothing catches Him off guard. We can trust Him even in the unknown and we can trust Him with His perfect timing.

Living on God's timetable takes intentionality.

The world tries to rush us and put us in a state of frantic hurry which is completely opposite of what God says to do. God says that a fruit of the spirit of being a follower of Christ is patience. If we are always jumping to the next thing, we will never have time to marinate on what God is doing in our lives today.

In the moments when you feel like you should be further along in life by now or it feels like God isn't doing anything in your life, remember that He is forming your character and making your hands strong enough to carry whatever is coming in your next season of life. He is more concerned with us becoming more Christ-like than with us receiving the next promotion, open door or opportunity that ultimately will be temporary.

A key that I have found in trusting God's perfect timing is to continually remind myself that our time here on this earth is fleeting and temporary, and eternity is forever. I challenge you to keep that at the forefront of your mind everyday.

His timing and plans for your life are perfect, even when your timing isn't lining up with His. Trust Him. The timing on His clock will always line up with the call on your life, and that my friend, is exactly where you want to be.

DAY FOUR

SCRIPTURES)

HABAKKUK 2:3

For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.

ECCLESIASTES 3:9

What do workers gain from their toil?

ECCLESIASTES 3:11

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

2 PETER 3:8-9

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousands years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repenetance.

PROVERBS 3:5

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;

DAY FIVE

Leave A Legacy That Doesn't Lead Back To Yourself.

Have you ever thought of how you want to be remembered? I know I have. I must admit that my answer to this question has changed multiple times throughout my life.

As someone who has reached the ranks of what many would consider "successful," I can confidently tell you that there's so much more to life than accolades and accomplishments. A job title, a friendship, a relationship, a social status or a number in your bank account will never provide true, lasting fulfillment.

A relationship with Jesus Christ, loving God and loving people and leaving a legacy that doesn't lead back to yourself is what it means to live a true, purpose-driven life. When you make serving God your lifestyle, you experience a peace that surpasses any material thing that this world could throw your way.

Nothing else will ever satisfy your soul. And trust me, I've tried it all.

I've found that our priorities in life become a whole lot easier when we realize just how temporary our life here on earth is. We live on borrowed time, with none of it promised except for the very moment we are living in right now. We don't have time to wallow in self-pity, frustration or confusion because we feel like we aren't where we are supposed to be or are discouraged that our plans aren't unfolding like we planned or hoped.

We can't afford to stay stuck in what we thought was going to happen that we miss out on what God is doing now, which is always better than anything we could have ever planned.

Where much is given, much is required. How can God trust us with what's next if we're not focused on what He is doing now? Be faithful where your feet are.

At the end of the day, we live in a broken, sinful world. We will experience suffering, trials, tribulations, and heartbreak. It's not a matter of if these disappointments will happen, it's a matter of when. Things won't go as we planned, and it will be okay because our circumstances don't take God off of His throne. We must choose to stay focused on the one purpose we have while we are here: to love God and to love people where we are.

Living a life for God is far from boring. When you choose to intentionally live for Him every day, He will take you on some wild, exciting and fun adventures that you will want to share with the world. The best part is, you won't be able to take any credit for the stories or the outcome. Our only job is to bring God the glory.

As we wrap up our last day of this 5-day plan, I want to leave you with this reminder: What God has for you is for you, but it's not for you.

You are living the legacy you will leave every day. Will you leave a legacy that only leads back to yourself? Or will you choose to intentionally live a life of loving God and loving people so well that regardless of their response, you will hear these words from our loving Father: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Because in the end, that is all that will matter.

DAY FIVE

SCRIPTURES

MATTHEW 25:21

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share in your master's happiness.'

MATTHEW 6:34

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.

Each day has enough trouble of its own.

LUKE 12:48

But the one who does not know and does things deserving punishment will be beaten with few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will

PSALMS 145:4

One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.

PROVERBS 19:21

Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

PRAYTHIS TODAY

Father, thank You for the hope we have in Christ and for the gift of community.

I'm grateful for this fresh start and for the people You will place in my life to encourage, champion, and pray for me.

Give me the courage to boldly live out my faith, the desire to bless others, and the focus to walk with You every day.

When I feel weary, remind me that I'm not alone and that You are faithful to carry me through. I trust in Your promises, Your Word, and Your Spirit.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

PRAYING FOR YOU

