

MAXWELL E. OGAGA

THE  
PURPOSE  
DRIVEN  
LIFE

[www.pastormax.ng](http://www.pastormax.ng)

# The Purpose Driven Life

Everyone is driven by something and this is the reason many people do what they do. This becomes the motivation for the job or career they choose, and even the relationships they get it in.

It is very important that regardless of what is going around us we are driven by the mind, will and purposes of God for our lives. Here are some things that serve as motivation for people.

1. **Religious expectations.** There are many well –meaning zealous people who stepped into ministry because they were very active in church and their pastor “thought” they could do well as Pastors. We must commit our time, resources and talents to the things of God, but no one can call you into ministry. Your zeal and compassion is not equivalent to a call into ministry. Some who got into ministry especially full time when they should not or were not called, struggle and most of the time it is because of the religious expectations that some authority figure over us has on them. The gifts and call into ministry are from God and Him alone. I love the way Apostle Paul always introduces himself as an Apostle by the will of God and not man. See “Paul, an apostle--sent not from men nor by a man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—“ (Galatians 1:1).
2. **Family Expectations.** There many people in various fields today and getting involved in certain lifestyle because that is what their parents want them to do. Some have gotten married to people they have no business getting married to because that’s the tribe their families prefer. If we are not careful to create the proper balance according to scriptures; the word of God, we would end up living our lives to please men and their expectations of us as opposed to Divine will and guidance. Parents can of course offer advice and guidance to their children but based on the knowledge that ultimately every one of us here on earth was created

for a purpose and when we become children of God then there is a definite assignment in our lives that we must fulfill. If we look at the Zechariah for instance when John was born, he asked what is going to be the name of this child and he said “John”, the people said no one in this family bears that name. If Zechariah was not firm in that which he heard from God, that name would not have been approved by the family members. “On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him after his father Zechariah, but his mother spoke up and said, “No! He is to be called John.” They said to her, “There is no one among your relatives who has that name.” (Luke 1 : 59-61, NIV)

3. **Money:** It is known that money is the accepted medium of exchange and most times many decisions are made on monetary basis. As a child of God money must not be the motivating factor on why you are doing what you are doing. You can walk out of the will of God for your life, just by making money the deciding factor in your life. We see this happen in the life of Balaam the Prophet, the scriptures said he prophesied for the wages of unrighteousness. “They have wandered off the right road and followed the footsteps of Balaam son of Beor, who loved to earn money by doing wrong.” (2 Peter 2: 15, NLT). He was created to be a genuine prophet of God and he should stay focused on that but because of money, he took the wrong step. Sometimes you have work and earn to be able to do what God has called you to do , that is not what I am referring to here, such an individual would weigh the earning options that can still allow him accomplish purpose. But when you disregard your assignment and all your motivation is how much you can make, your god become your belly and you measure life in the abundance of things you possess which is a wrong index for measuring life (Phil 3:19, Luke 12:15).

4. **Society:** Society puts pressure on people to make unhealthy choices and against their purpose in life. Society has influences and pressures that believers need to constantly check with the word of God. Ours is a materialistic and corrupt

society, and this puts social pressure on what is acceptable and what is not. You must understand that society is always moving along the streams of what is popular and what is right in their ‘own eyes’, whereas believers we are to uphold the standards of the word of God. Our internal motivation must not be to live up to societal expectations but God’s call and mandate for our lives. Do not be driven by the constant waves of societal pressure.

5. **Peers:** While growing up I was always warned about choosing friends and their ability to impact my life. One phrase I heard often was **“beware of peer pressure”**. Unfortunately I see that even older people, and some ministers of the Gospel are living based on peer expectations and not according to God’s design for their lives. We must be careful to watch against the subtle influences of peer pressure that can make us walk out of the unique path God has placed us. We all are commissioned by God, we are not in competition with anyone neither are we to impress anyone. **“We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. When they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are not wise”** (2 Cor 10:12, NIV).
  
6. **Personal Ambition:** It is possible to want to be something you were not designed and created for, or be involved in something or someplace where God is not asking you to be part of. This takes a lot of humility to accept, acknowledge and to retrace your steps. For instance, I had always wanted to be a university lecturer. I love to teach and lecture but I am grateful to God that I was able to find His call on my life early, I would not trade places today. Our ambition can stand in the way of His purpose for our lives. If we are prayerful and discerning, we must never be driven by personal ambitions but His call and assignment for our lives whatever that might be. It is important to state that once you have discovered God’s purpose for your life, make sure to stay within His plan and not

veering off using God's purpose to accomplish your own desire. I would take ministry for example, Paul wanted to preach in other cities and the Holy Spirit said no, and sent him to Macedonia instead. Preaching in other cities is a good thing, but there is a plan and those other cities were not part of the plan. Paul himself said some preach Christ out of envy. Personal ambitions can rear its ugly head in your purpose, you have to constantly fellowship with the Father to always purify your motives.

7. **Your Divine Call:** This should be the number one driving force in your life. The fulfillment of your divine assignment and purpose whatever that might be from God should be your motivation in life. God told Jeremiah before, "I formed you in your mother's womb, I knew you and called you". This is very important, having the understanding that you have been set apart for a unique purpose should be the driving force of your life. This is why you should marry, work, live and do whatever you are doing been driven by the call and assignment of God for your life.

*"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 1:5, NIV)

*"But even before I was born, God chose me and called me by his marvelous grace. Then it pleased him"* (Galatians 1:5, NLT).

## **Six Important Facts about Your Purpose**

1. ***Your purpose is given and ordained by God.*** It means you don't create or conjure it, you have to discover it.
2. **Your purpose is unique,** there is no basis for comparison.

3. ***Your purpose is time bound.*** You must be conscious of this, I have seen people live as if they have all the time in the world. You must maximize every single day in the actualization of your God given purpose. Learn to execute speedily and wisely making maximum use of the moment.
4. ***Your purpose would require labour and hardwork.*** You cannot be lazy and accomplish God's call for your life and purpose. Jesus worked hard and efficiently also. We must not just claim the promises in the scriptures, we must follow the patterns of hard work contained in the Bible also. "*I must work the works of him who sent me, while it is day. The night is coming, when no one can work*" (John 9:4, WEB).

Paul the Apostle had a very strong grace and call on his life, but he said he worked harder than all the other Apostles, he wrote letters from Prison etc, our divine calling and mandate is not an excuse from hard work.

*"But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them--yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me."* (1 Cor 15: 10, NIV).

5. ***Your purpose will require focus.*** We live in a world of many distractions. We can become so distracted that we walk out of the purpose of God for our lives, or we can become so busy but not productive. It is important that in fulfilling purpose you try as much as you can to eliminate distractions. Even though Jesus had massive success in other cities He did not stop there. He knew He was called to also reach other cities "Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else--to the nearby villages--so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." (Mark 1: 38, NIV). This is a very important but vital lesson also, we must never because of what we have accomplish lose our focus. I always say "**Satan will give you comfort, if it will make you walk away from your purpose**".

## REASONS PEOPLE DO NOT FULLFILL THEIR GOD GIVEN PURPOSE.

- 1. IGNORANCE:** Some people do not fulfill their purpose because of ignorance, and this can be in two ways. First, they are not aware of their God-given purpose, and therefore do not live conscious of it. Paul for instance, as Saul in the book of Acts was not aware of his divine call, until he had an encounter with God on the road to Damascus. That was when he began to embrace divine purpose. Secondly, some are aware of their purpose but do not possess the required knowledge to fulfill that purpose.
- 2. MONEY:** We have explained above the money motivation in life. It can become a driving force and it can also be a reason people are not walking in the call of God for their lives, because the question would be how this translates into bank alerts. The truth is, sometimes the call of God for your life won't necessarily make you a millionaire or make you be amongst Forbes list of richest men in your country. There was no way preaching in the wilderness was going to make John the Baptist the wealthiest man in Israel. God will definitely prosper and bless you in the field of your assignment but money can be a distraction that can hinder you from fulfilling your assignment. Mother Theresa working in the slums of Calcutta India was not the wealthiest in India but she fulfilled divine purpose.
- 3. LAZINESS:** Some people are not fulfilling God's purpose for their lives because they are too lazy to put the shift and labour in their assignment. This laziness can be mental, physical, spiritual and sometimes even financial. Too lazy to say yes to the inner promptings of God's call for them. This laziness can masquerades sometimes as fear or "wisdom", see what Solomon said "*The lazy man says, "There is a lion outside! I shall be slain in the streets!"*" (Prov 22:13, NKJV). These set of people are too lazy to attempt anything in direction of their God given call and purpose. They are too mentally lazy to study, read, research, attend conferences and seminars that can aid their purpose. They are too spiritually lazy to fast, pray,

study, meditate, listen to tapes, sit under teaching meetings to enable to build the capacity for their assignment.

4. **MARRIAGE (FAMILY):** Marriage and families are designed by God to be unions and relationships that aid the execution of His plans for our lives, in terms of His call, assignment and purpose. Unfortunately, these same relationships for some are the stumbling blocks to the very purposes of God for our lives. Your spouse would contribute greatly to whether you fulfill God's plan for your life or. Again, it is not just your spouse saying, "no problem you can do what you feel God is asking you to do...", but also been able to support you as you make the necessary sacrifices for that assignment. For instance as a church planter and missionary, I have to often start a new ministry work at new locations, move family and travel, without the support of my family it can't and won't be possible. If you are not married I recommend you prayerful make this choice of who to marry. You know at a point Jesus was teaching and guess who came to interrupt him in the middle of his message? You are right, his family members just as he was preaching. Imagine the scene, your pastor is preaching and his mother and family member's sends an usher to come call him. Why did they not seat and wait till He finishes teaching? His brothers told him to go to Jerusalem and perform miracles, all kinds of suggestions that had the capacity to derail Jesus from fulfilling His assignment. (Mathew 12:46-49, John 7:3).
  
5. **WILLFULL DISOBEDIENCE:** There are those who know what God has called them to do and what they should be doing but for whatever reason, they just refuse to say Yes to the assignment of God for their lives. Willful disobedience can be one reason why people do not fulfill God's purpose for their lives.

6. **FEAR:** Fear paralyzes initiatives. For fear of the unknown many have not been able to step up and fulfill God's plan for their life. If you are afraid, spend time with God and His word, birth deep convictions in your heart regarding your assignment, when the time is ripe take a step of faith on the promises of God for you and your assignment. Get rid of fear, it is not from God.
  
7. **WRONG RELATIONSHIPS:** *“Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble.”* (Proverbs 13:20, NLT). This is one of the most important verses in scriptures you must not forget. Your associations will define you; will make or mar you. Who you relate with would determine if you will fulfill divine destiny or not. If your friends are not conscious of divine purpose, you will never be conscious of it. You must walk with men who are conscious that we are accountable to God for our lives. This should guide your sense of associations.

## **Final Word.**

We must not forget that we will give account of our lives to God, not just based on our actions but on that which He has called us to do before we were born.

**See Paul's final words.**

*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing (2 Timothy 4: 7-8, NIV)*

These words Paul said that must stand out for us

I have fought the good fight

I have finished the race

I have kept the faith

It is important that we are able to say this at the end of our lives. Never forget we are accountable to God for what we do with our lives here on earth. We are not just here to acquire things, we are here for divine assignment and purposes. God trusted us enough to put that assignment within us, we must not fail God and the world. It is time to step up the plate and fulfill God's purpose for our lives.

.....

*“Learn to manage the Gift of Access. When someone grants you access to their life, learn to manage it properly. Access is key to success in life. Wisdom is profitable to direct. Do not take access for granted.”-*

- Maxwell Ogaga -

*“If God has blessed you with good friends, be grateful, honor those relationships. Do not let pride, ego and emotions make you throw away genuine God given friends. True friends are hard to come by, be one and value those in your life. Life is about the right relationships and how they are managed”.*

- Maxwell Ogaga -

*Follow us on twitter for weekly teaching tweets @PstMaxwell*

## **GET THE WORD IN YOUR HEART.-**

Visit our website for various teachings and series that would enhance your understanding and walk with God, including free book downloads.

We recommend this new teaching series

*\*Following God’s Plan for your life*

*\*Generational Curses (Myths, Fact or Truth)*

*\*Biblical Motivation for Five-Fold Ministry*

All free downloads on

**[www.pastormax.ng](http://www.pastormax.ng)**

*BUILD YOUR FAITH – Television & Radio Broadcast:*

START YOUR DAY IN **THE WORD**

**PRESENT TRUTH**  
TV BROADCAST  
WITH - MAXWELL E. OGAGA

6AM – 6:30AM  
DAILY  
www.pastormax.ng

ON

Hosanna

www.pastormax.ng

**PRESENT TRUTH**  
TV BROADCAST  
WITH - MAXWELL E. OGAGA

**EVERY MONDAY**  
5PM – 5:30PM  
(NIG TIME GMT +1)

OMEGA  
GOSPEL TV

ON

OMEGA GOSPEL TV

Listen to  
**PRESENT TRUTH BROADCAST**  
WITH **PS MAX**

- EVERY WEEK ON -

**CONFLUENCE RADIO**  
94.0 FM (LOKOJA)  
THURSDAYS 6:15 – 6:30PM  
SUNDAYS 6:30 – 6:45PM

**VIBES FM**  
97.3 BENIN  
TUESDAYS 6:45 – 6:55PM  
THURSDAYS 6:45 – 6:55PM

Free Messages  
www.pastormax.ng

**Ministry Contact:**

Call/WhatsApp +234805 888 7575

Mail: [pastorogaga2@gmail.com](mailto:pastorogaga2@gmail.com)

FB: [facebook.com/MaxOgaga](https://www.facebook.com/MaxOgaga)

## *About Maxwell:*

Maxwell E. Ogaga Pastor and Bible Teacher is a second generation minister and the Administrator of God's Kingdom Advancement Ministries, in 2012 he relocated his family to pioneer a new ministry project in Southern Nigeria. He founded Kingdom Development Christian Centre in Bonny Island as a new regional apostolic hub of God's Kingdom Advancement Ministries. ([www.kdcbonny.org](http://www.kdcbonny.org)) and Kingdom Advancement Christian Centre ([www.kaccph.org](http://www.kaccph.org)) Port Harcourt.

Maxwell also founded "Spirit of Reformation Initiative/Ministry" (SORI), a youth focused ministry that organizes youth and teens camp meetings ([www.soricamp.org](http://www.soricamp.org)). With a Passion to equip emerging Pastors and leaders "Timothy Conference" was birthed, an Institute for equipping emerging Pastors/Leaders in conference format, this trainings currently takes place in various locations within and outside the country ([www.timothyconference.org](http://www.timothyconference.org)).

He travels extensively, teaching believers and raising a new breed of leaders locally and internationally. He currently resides in Bonny Island with his family where they serve as full time missionaries.