

THE UNCTION TO FUNCTION PRT 1

I want to start off this morning by saying, no one exists by chance or by human choice. But rather, everyone exists because God wanted them to exist and to exist for a purpose. There is no life without a purpose but not everyone will get to live out their purpose. Myles Munroe used to say that the richest place on earth is the grave site because there lie dreams, purposes and aspirations that never saw the light of day.

As we continue exploring the person of the Holy Spirit, this morning, I want to talk to you on the subject matter **THE UNCTION TO FUNCTION.**

When God created you, He had a purpose and destiny for you and success in life is not measured by how much money you are making, how many people you are touching, how many people you have helped.

Success is measured by how closely aligned your life is with your purpose and not by mere accomplishments.

Your destiny and purpose cannot be fully realized until firstly you are reconciled with God and secondly until you learn to walk with the Holy Spirit.

Unless you are born again, you might feel as if you are living your purpose but in the eyes of God your purpose on earth, first and foremost is to worship Him and then out of worship you get to live out God's heart on earth.

- I want to speak to someone this morning, who feels as if there is nothing worthwhile about their lives. Maybe you look at your life and you feel like you have missed the plot, you have failed in some respect.
- There are seasons in our lives when we experience a sense of loss of purpose, but you need to learn how to survive those seasons.
- You are probably feeling directionless, just living for the moment. I want you to remain in the presence of the purpose giver and He will reignite the lost passion in you.
- As long as you are alive, your life still has meaning – each day you wake up, I want you to know that it is because God is not done yet with you, God still wants to do something with your life.

Jeremiah 1:4 And it happened, the Word of Jehovah came to me, saying, 5 Before I formed you in the belly I knew you; and before you came forth out of the womb I consecrated you, and I ordained you a prophet to the nations. 6 Then I said, Alas, Lord Jehovah! Behold, I do not know to speak; for I am a boy. 7 But Jehovah said to me, Do

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not say, I am a boy; for you shall go to all that I shall send you, and whatever I command you, you shall speak.

- Jeremiah was called at a very tender age to speak a difficult word of doom and eventual redemption for God's people.
- It was an unusual message which was not well received. When it comes to the things of God, you will always find yourself out of your comfort zone.
- You cannot serve God within your comfort zone, within your area of competency and within your area of ease.
- When God calls you, He will lead you into places where your faith will be tested.
- Jeremiah faced that situation but what he was facing was not going to change what God had determined to before time began – *verse 5 Before I formed you in the belly I knew you; and before you came forth out of the womb I consecrated you, and I ordained you a prophet to the nations.*
- Some of you here know what God has called you to do in this season but your life is full of contradictions – Jeremiah was being given a mature message to speak to a rebellious nation but he was an immature boy who was still wet behind his ears.
- I don't know what contradictions you are facing right now but your way to living out your purpose is to live beyond the contradictions and open yourself up to the God who calls.
- Jeremiah could not think of being a bearer of bad news and thought of a reason – his reason was that he was too young to do this.
- Yes, we all have reasons why we cannot do what God has called us to do – Moses said he could not speak, Gideon said he was least in his family and his family was the least in his clan, Mary said she had not known a man.
- But listen to how God responded to Jeremiah:
Jeremiah 1:8 Do not be afraid of their faces; for I am with you to deliver you, says Jehovah. 9 And Jehovah put forth His hand, and touched my mouth. And Jehovah said to me, Behold, I have put My Words in your mouth.
- Whilst Jeremiah was giving reasons, God was preparing an anointing to function. God told Jeremiah that he was not going to do it by himself, but God was going to do it through him "...I am with you".

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- The Lord touched Jeremiah's mouth and transformed it into a powerful weapon. God anointed Jeremiah for the work that was before him.
- When we talk about the unction to function, we are talking about the anointing to function effectively in pursuing your destiny.
- Ask the Lord to touch you again, ask the Lord to anoint you for what lies ahead of you.
- From the time when Jeremiah received the unction, he could not hold back even if he tried.

Jeremiah 20:9 Then I said, "I will not make mention of Him, Nor speak anymore in His name." But His word was in my heart like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; I was weary of holding it back, And I could not.

- The anointing makes a difference, the anointing changes everything. When you receive the unction of the Holy Spirit, you will not sit back any longer.
- Then unction to function begins by being infilled by the Holy Spirit. When He comes, He deposits supernatural abilities in your life, that enables you to function in the supernatural.
- Through the work of the Godhead, every believer receives spiritual gifts called charisma (charismata in plural).
- These gifts are referred to as enablers or equippers for personal service in God's kingdom.
- Spiritual gifts give us supernatural abilities for service and growth in the kingdom of God.
- Like they say, ignorance is not bliss – unfortunately most believers are ignorant of the gifts of the holy grace.

1 Corinthians 12:1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I would not have you ignorant.

- Knowing about the gifts is the starting point to access the unction to function but not the end. You will only live fully in gifts of the spirit to the degree to which you long for them.

1 Corinthians 12:31 But zealously strive after the better gifts. And yet I show to you a more excellent way.

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- Receiving the unction to function cannot be experienced by passive people. It is biblical to zealously seek to understand and to operate in the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- The starting point of the gifts of the spirit is what you experience on the initial infilling of the Holy Spirit.
- When it comes to the gifts of the spirit, the entire Godhead plays a role in distributing spiritual gifts.
- By and large, there are three categories of spiritual gifts:
 - Gifts given by God
 - Gifts given the Holy Spirit
 - Gifts given the son of God.
- Next week, I will start unpacking each of these categories.
- But for today, I want to cover the initial gift experienced at the initial infilling by the Holy Spirit.
- Since most of you speak in tongues, I am going to speak briefly on it. I am hoping that to those who do not speak in tongues as yet, will develop a longing and desire for that gift and continue trusting God for it.