

The Best is Yet to Come (5)

"A Journey to Abundant Life"

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." — John 10:10b (ESV)

Walking in Purpose and Power

(Isaiah 61:1-3; Acts 1:8)

Introduction: We all desire a life of meaning, fulfillment, and significance. God has not created us to live aimlessly, but rather to live abundant lives and to walk in His divine purpose and power. Isaiah 61:1-3 and Acts 1:8 reveal that God's anointing equips us to impact others and bring His kingdom to earth.

Today, I want us to explore how walking in His purpose and power transforms our lives and the lives of those around us. Walking in purpose and power means living under God's anointing, being empowered by the Holy Spirit, and intentionally serving others to fulfill His mission and bring His kingdom to earth.

I. Understanding of God's anointing and purpose: (Isa. 61:1-3)

(Lk 4:18-19), emphasizes that God's anointing has a purpose—to *bring healing, freedom, and restoration to a broken world*.

A. What is anointing? Anointing is the divine empowerment given by God through the Holy Spirit to accomplish His work.

1. **In the Old Testament**, (1 Samuel 16:13, Exodus 28:41).
2. **In the New Testament**, (Luke 4:18),
3. **As believers today**, we receive this anointing through our relationship with Christ (1 John 2:20, 27) when the Holy Spirit comes to live in us (1 Cor. 6:19).

B. How does anointing apply to us today? *Every believer is called to live under God's anointing. This means being filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18):*

1. We are empowered to share the gospel boldly (Matthew 28:19-20).
2. We have spiritual gifts to edify the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:7-11).
3. We carry God's presence into every sphere of life, whether in ministry, work, play or relationships.

God's anointing is not for personal gain but for the benefit of others. Just as Jesus ministered with power, so too are we called to be His hands and feet. (Jn. 14:12) Our purpose is tied to God's mission—to proclaim His good news, comfort the mourning, and bring joy where there is despair.

II. Walk in the power of the Holy Spirit: (Ac. 1:8)

A. The Holy Spirit empowers us to fulfill God's calling and be bold witnesses for Christ.

1. The primary reason the Holy Spirit empowered the apostles was to spread the gospel. (Matthew 28:19-20), but they needed divine enablement to accomplish this mission.

2. After receiving the Holy Spirit, they gained boldness, wisdom, and miraculous abilities that confirmed their testimony (Acts 4:31, 1 Corinthians 2:4-5).
3. The Holy Spirit's power enabled them to be effective witnesses of Christ. (Acts 3:6-8, Acts 5:12-16).
4. What ensued was so dynamic that the unbelievers described the apostles as *those who turned the world upside down* (Acts 17:6) (Acts 2:14-41).
The difference? The power of the Holy Spirit!

B. How does the Holy Spirit empower us today?

1. **Just as the apostles were empowered to spread the gospel, the Holy Spirit equips us today to fulfill God's purpose in our lives.** The Spirit:
 - a. Gives us boldness to share the gospel (2 Timothy 1:7).
 - b. He provides wisdom and discernment to navigate life's challenges (John 16:13).
 - c. He strengthens us to overcome fear and discouragement (Romans 8:26).
 - d. He empowers us with spiritual gifts to serve and build up the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:4-11).
 - e. He fills us with love, joy, peace, and perseverance to live as Christ's representatives (Galatians 5:22-23).
2. **When we surrender our lives to the Holy Spirit**, we experience His power in every aspect of our lives, transforming us into effective witnesses for Christ which is what we are all called to be.

III. Living with intentionality and serving others:

Walking in purpose and power requires us to be intentional in serving others and seeking God's guidance for our unique calling.

A. Living intentionally means daily seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance (Proverbs 3:5-6). Asking God to reveal where He wants you to minister.

1. Live with spiritual awareness. We must constantly be in tune with the Holy Spirit, ready to follow His direction in daily life (Romans 8:14).
2. This means praying, listening, and being sensitive to His leading and opportunities around us.

B. Living intentionally means taking deliberate steps to fulfill your calling. Purpose is not fulfilled passively—it requires action. (Ephesians 5:15-16).

C. Serve others with love and humility. Jesus set the example of intentional servanthood (Mark 10:45).

D. It requires a commit to consistency. Living with intentionality is not a one-time event but a daily commitment. (1 Corinthians 9:24-27).

E. This means we trust God with the results. (Galatians 6:9).

F. This also means to use your gifts and talents to serve others (1 Peter 4:10).

G. Living with intentionality and serving others is love in action (James 2:17).