

TAKE THE BULL BY THE HORN...

DAMN THE CONSEQUENCES



**Provoking Thoughts and
Spiritual Keys to Confront Your
Fears, Handle Pains and
Setbacks, Take Risks & Exploit
New Opportunities**

DANIEL C. OKPARA

Take the Bull by the Horn and Damn the Consequences.

**Touching Stories, Provoking Thoughts and Spiritual
Keys to Confront Your Fears, Overcome Obstacles,
Handle Pains and Setbacks; Discover New
Opportunities and Experience Big Breakthroughs.**

DANIEL C. OKPARA.

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this book to two important persons in my life: First, my treasure of inestimable value, my wife, Blessing Doris Akachukwu Idam, for always being there for me. And to my mother, Louisa Okpara (Nwanyi Ocha), for her eternal love and continuous prayers for me.

Introduction:

GET BACK YOUR FIGHTING SPIRIT...NOW!

Life is a battlefield. You won't easily get what you deserve, unless you learn to fight; unless you learn to take some abnormal steps.

A wise man said, "Life does not give you what you deserve. Life gives you what you demand."

Four men brought a sick friend who was paralyzed to Jesus. But there was no way to get the sick man to a comfortable position where Jesus could see and give him the desired attention. And there was no way they could book an appointment with Jesus because He would be staying in that town just for that day.

All this was enough for them to consider and go home. They could have told their friend, "Boy, we're sorry. We cannot change the status quo. We've tried our best. So brace up and let's take you home. We'll try next time".

But that was not what they did. Instead ***"they made an opening in the roof above Jesus and after digging through it, lowered the mat the paralyzed man***

was lying on” (Mark 2:4).

Can you imagine that!

They threw the paralyzed man down from the rooftop and caused a commotion, thereby getting the attention they needed.

That was a fighting spirit.

They broke the rules. They changed the protocols. But they succeeded.

Beloved, it's time to awaken the giant in you. It's time to awaken the fighting spirit in you. It's time to tell yourself, *“ENOUGH. I'm going to do something about my life. I'm going to make necessary changes and I'm going to do it now....NOT TOMORROW. Not next time....NOW”*

Paul told Timothy, “Fight for the prophecies that have been made on you!” (I Timothy 1:18 - Paraphrased)

In this book, I want to challenge you to overcome your obstacles, explore opportunities around, break forth and start fulfilling the prophecies of your life and destiny.

I want to challenge you to ignore what you don't have and look at what you have critically and make moves to better your life. I want to challenge you to

overcome procrastination and make that move you've been postponing now.

I want to PUSH you to do something now....yes, now. NOT TOMORROW.

Don't forget this, ***nothing ever changes unless someone does something.*** Your situation cannot change unless you do something – even if it means taking some risks.

Other Books from the Same Author.

Thank you for downloading this book. I believe the ideas in this book will impact your life positively. Please find below some other books that the LORD has led and empowered me to write. These materials will be a great blessing to you.

1. [Healing Prayers: 30 Powerful Prophetic Prayers that Brings Healing and Empower You to Walk in Divine Health.](#)
2. [Healing WORDS: 55 Powerful Daily Confessions & Declarations to Activate Your Healing & Walk in Divine Health: Strong Decrees That Invoke Healing for You & Your Loved Ones](#)
3. [Prayers That Break Curses and Spells and Release Favors and Breakthroughs.](#)
4. [7 Nights Fasting With 120 Powerful Night Prayers for Personal Deliverance and Breakthrough.](#)
5. [100 Powerful Prayers for Teenagers](#)
6. [How to Pray for Your Family: + 70 Powerful Prayers and Prophetic Declarations for Your Family's Salvation, Healing, Victory, Breakthrough & Total Restoration.](#)

7. [Daily Prayer Guide: A Practical Guide to Praying and Getting Results – Learn How to Develop a Powerful Personal Prayer Life](#)

8. [Make Him Respect You: 31 Relationship Advice for Women to Make their Men Respect Them.](#)

See all at: www.amazon.com/author/danielokpara

Chapter 1: Search for the Seed of Good in Every Adversity!

Have you experienced some failures?

Have you had some serious setbacks in life?

So?

Over there in the street of Oshodi, Lagos, in one tiny shop, sits a young man smiling as he mends shoes for his clients. Looking closely, one notices that even though the shop is small, the shop owner seems very busy, meaning that he has a lot of clients who brought him business.

But that's just a part of the story. When you approach the smiling dude, and want to ask a few questions, no one will tell you that the guy is crippled. You'll see it yourself.

However, he's joyfully making shoes and seems to be doing okay with it financially. So, one is prompted to ask, "Hey, bro, what's up. Do you mind telling us a little about you?"

“Yes, why not, come in,” he replied, in a very soft penetrating tone, that makes you really wonder if this guy is really just a shoemaker.

Tunde was the first child of his parents. Having suffered from some kind of birth defects that made him grow as an invalid, he had enormous challenges growing up. However, with the support of his loving parents he was able to muster courage to go to school and build a desire to be successful within him. His plan was to become an accountant. He ate, talked and slept with the idea.

However, the unfortunate happened. Towards the end of high school education he lost his parents in a rather mysterious way. Consequently, that dream was prematurely suppressed. That door was closed.

But thank God that is not the end of the story.

It's always said that as long as there is life there is hope. *If one door closes there will always be other doors that open if we look well.*

With his siblings to look after, Tunde had no option than to forfeit his secondary education and learn a trade. But as an invalid as well there was little or no chance for him in most of the very active trades and merchandising.

To so many, this junction would be the end of the story. In our society we find even people with lesser situations giving up on life and resorting to begging,

dependency or much more devalued living. But that was not the case with Tunde.

With a desire to make the best out of life, Tunde proceeded to learn the art of shoemaking!

As you know, our society sees that kind of occupation as nonproductive. But with the help of God, sheer diligence and creativity Tunde is able to provide exceptional shoemaking services far more out of the ordinary!

His warmth, zeal and exceptional skill in the work has endeared him to many clients and they keep increasing in number every day and keep coming back. From the same trade he is able to take care of his siblings and adequately provide for them. And just recently he got married and as you read this now the family is blessed with a beautiful daughter!

That is Tunde's story.

You see, the truth is that doors do close. Great opportunities and happiness sometimes do come to a halt without any explanation! But of a greater truth is that no matter the situation, anyone can rise and make the best out of life.

When life pushes you down, you can rise. It is only when you decide to remain down that you are considered beaten completely.

Even if it means starting over with a lesser dignifying endeavor, what matters is that you are doing something to give your life a meaning. Sometimes what you and our society may see as ordinary is what God can use to lift you up.

So look for the doors that are open and stop worrying over the ones that have closed!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

There is something you can do today to start moving your life forward. It may be small but start it. Every big thing starts small.

Chapter 2: Nothing in Life is So Hard That You Can't Make It Easier By The Way You Take It!

Let's talk about disappointments.

So what if people you trusted have failed and betrayed you?

What if they have exploited you and left you with only pains and emotional bruises?

And financial crisis?

What should you do?

Give up?

Kill yourself? Huh?

Can I shock you?

You're not alone.

Gladys dated Sam for over four years and it seemed to everyone, including the villagers that that was love made in heaven. But one day, Gladys introduced Tonia her best girlfriend whom she planned to make her maid of honor (Chief Bridesmaid) during her wedding to Sam as the two visited.

The relationship continued as if everything was alright, unknown to her that her best friend has already beaten her out of the relationship. Two years later, Tonia was married to Sam in a grand wedding ceremony.

Julius has worked in this Milk Company for over 4 years, giving his very best. It was obvious among the people in the helm of affairs that this guy deserved to be promoted. In fact, after a general professional promotion examination he scored highest and afterwards was promoted. But unfortunately, the same month he was promoted, he was kicked out of the company in a way no one could explain exactly why.

Jon is 35 and his wife, Rose, 34. Both have lived for 17 years as married couple and have labored hard to raise an only son, Billy.

Recently Billy started having health worries which was diagnosed to have a genetic inclination. Incidentally such problem is not traceable in Jon's lineage. On further probing, Rose eventually let the cat out of the bag. Billy was not actually Jon's son.

The stories above are based on true life experiences, though I have amended the actualities a bit and changed the names of the real people involved.

Now, can you imagine the frustration, anger, disillusionment, fear and total inner destruction these experiences would have on the persons involved? And we hear these kinds of stories day in day out.

Sometimes in life we might not be able to explain why certain things happen. We cannot explain why certain doors closed and why they had to close against us when they did. But whatever it is and wherever we find ourselves, we owe it to ourselves to pick what's left over and move on! Our biggest problem would be dwelling so long waiting for the closed doors to open.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

*"Being defeated is often a temporary condition.
Giving up is what makes it permanent"*

Chapter 3: Six Beliefs That Are Wrong. Change These Beliefs and Experience Great Miracles.

Here are 6 dangerous ideas that can kill us even while we are alive. These beliefs have so much power to form invisible barriers and prevent us from getting the best out of our lives, no matter how we try. These beliefs are:

1. “Some people are lucky.”
2. “The government and economy is the main problem.”
3. “Those who are successful today are cutting corners.”
4. “Money is the root of all evil.”
5. “Curses and evil people are the reasons I am failing.”
6. “I’m from a poor family background; I got no education; that’s why I’m where I am today.”

Several years ago, a study was carried out in order to determine the extent to which positive self-image affect one’s overall output in any endeavor. A few never-do-well students were called out and informed that they were the best among the other students in the whole school and therefore would be given a

special class with a special teacher who would teach and prepare them for their oncoming examination.

The teacher who was assigned to them was also told that he was the best in the school which was why he was considered to handle the class. Meanwhile, in the actual sense, the guy was the worst performing teacher the school had. With that kind of mental picture, positive self image and recognition implanted in the team the teacher went ahead to prepare those lads who eventually came out tops that session.

The theory that you can reasonably change your life in every way and attract good effects just by finding ways to influence your thought and belief system is an absolute fact. What happened in the story above is that the authorities helped the participants create a belief system that challenged them to bring out the best in them.

Unfortunately, no one may pick you for experiment like the above case study. In fact, our society is built around discouraging our abilities and the attempts we're making and emphasizing on our weaknesses and using them against us.

Regularly, friends and neighborhoods will try hard to help us see the obvious realities and how unfit, stupid, poor, sick and unqualified we are.

We'll always be pushed to think and attribute success, making money, happiness in marriage, excellence in studies and business to some form of luck, chance, or divine influence, while in reality they are not.

We owe it to ourselves to find ways and avenues to build the right kind of belief system that will in turn attract good results to us.

Dr. Uma Ukpai said some time ago, *“Until I can change the way you think I can't change the things that happen to you!”*

1. IF YOU BELIEVE IN LUCK, YOU'RE SCREWED, COS, THERE'S NOTHING LIKE LUCK IN REAL LIFE.

When I wrote this book in 2011, Goodluck Jonathan was the president of Nigeria. Almost everyone in Nigeria calls him the luckiest man on earth. This is because he became president without really fighting for it.

He was a man who was called from his lecturing job and made a commissioner. From a commissioner, he was called and made a deputy governor of his state, Bayelsa. Then the governor was removed on corruption charges, and he became the governor. After one tenure as a governor, he was picked as a vice president of Nigeria in 2007. But sadly, the president, Yaradua, eventually died from sickness, and Jonathan automatically became the president of Nigeria.

Nigerians are quite aware of the rise and rise of the man, Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, now former president. We all saw how the man emerged from nowhere to reach the highest office in any nation, practically filling positions he never struggled to earn.

When you look at that case study, you might back up the theory that it's all about luck. I acknowledge the fact that in a few cases people do enjoy extreme favors they never struggled or worked for. Sometimes without thinking, we call these

extreme favors in life “luck” and when we don’t have things that way we assume we are not lucky.

Most of us would have hundreds of reasons and experiences to share with anyone justifying our *luck theory* and why we can’t expect much from life.

However, you need to know that the best things of life do not come on the platform of luck, but on the platform of sowing and reaping. You are what you are today because of the past things you have thought and done... not due to luck.

Someone said that “*success in life is 95% planning, 4% hard work and 1% luck.*” And I agree with that.

When we do what we are supposed to do will always find ourselves lucky. So deal with that idea, trash it: **you do not have bad luck!**

2. THERE IS NO TIME ANY GOVERNMENT SEEMS TO GET IT COMPLETELY RIGHT IN ANY NATION.

Even in countries we call developed, they still have their shares of hardship, fighting, and complaining. There's still the gap between the rich and poor, between the government and the people.

I agree that our Government has not treated us nicely. Things could have been a lot easier if the necessary amenities are in place. Here in Nigeria for instance, if we have stable power, it will go a long way to ease the challenges we are facing. All the same, it is our responsibility to make a better life out of what is available.

We all need to get out of the government blame game and look for ways to make useful contribution within our environment. For instance, the unavailability of certain resources is an opportunity to provide those things and make profit.

Concentrate on looking for things you can do to move your life forward with what is available. ***“Change your thoughts,”*** says Norman V. Peale, ***“and you change your world.”***

If you believe you can never succeed under a certain prevalent economic situation, you inadvertently invoke natural obstacles to stop all your efforts from

yielding fruit.



3. IS IT REALLY POSSIBLE TO SUCCEED WITHOUT CUTTING CORNERS?

Can one really get out of the rat race without some level of compromise? Can one really make money; become a millionaire, without giving bribes for contract or telling some serious lies on paper and other ways?

Our society has pushed us into a situation where almost everyone believes that those who are making the most success must have had a point where they compromised on integrity issues. Most of us do not believe one can make any success without a form of cutting corners here and there. Unfortunately, we do not know that this kind of mental attitude has the capability of being an obstacle to our overall endeavors in life.

Without trying to play the saint, I want to make it clear that people still achieve the best without cutting corners. Not everyone is dancing with the crowd. We still have people that hold their heads high in respect for God and natural laws of existence and are making headway in their endeavors.

Here's an important point you should not easily forget: ***whatever a man gets by tricks and crooks will not better his life in the end.*** While it might come very fast, it will come with it all kinds of insecurity and threats. When God's laws and the laws of nature are contravened in the quest to make ends meet, severe

consequences are the result.

Ask students who got their certificates through crooks. The certificates don't take them anywhere after all. Ask lecturers who would sleep with female students in order to award them marks. They might be able to feed their families today, but the problems and troubles they face eventually are nothing to talk about.

There are those who feel because they are in a particular position they can do anything and get away with it. While they often do get away as it might seem, they do not get far. Why? Because in life, whatever goes around always comes around.

It's not how much you are worth today that matter, but how much you'll be worth tomorrow when the seeds you are sowing today (in thoughts, actions and dealings with people) are measured and harvested.

I know most people will say, "Well, you're not in my shoes. You don't know what is happening here." However, I don't need to be where you are to know that there's so much pressure to join the bandwagon of cheats and corrupted fellows. But we've got to stand up and speak against what is wrong.

What is wrong is wrong no matter who does it!

Honest men still and do make it in life. You can make it being right. So kill that idea that only crooks succeed. Such tiny belief and mental attitude is so powerful that it can close all genuine doors that should have been your lot. What you think will always find ways to materialize in your life.

4. MONEY IS NOT THE ROOT OF EVERY EVIL, LACK OF MONEY IS.

Some years ago, many Christians were taught that money is the root of all evil. We were taught that if you are a believer, you should never think of getting rich, living in good environments or driving a car. The song then was: *“Take the whole world and just give me Jesus.”*

The way to know if you’re a real Christian then is when you don’t have much, when you always suffer and live a terribly deprived life.

The eventual result of this teaching was that before we could say Jack, the unbelievers took the world and now are dictating for us how to live. We now have to go to them to rent a house and beg land for ministry; they now run the country and dictate the constitutions that govern us; they now teach us how to trade and do business.

Well, thanks to God’s Word. We now know that there’s nothing wrong with living a good life and having good things. What’s wrong is letting things have us.

The bible doesn’t say that money is the root of all evil, rather LOVE of money....that is the *desire for money at all costs, no matter whose ox is gored,*

disregarding common virtues and value, all to grab money...that is the root of evil (1Timothy 6:10).

Money in itself is not evil because it is required to achieve any form of good in our world. The Bible states that money answers all things. God wants His people - and that includes you – to have money, enough to do good to our families, the church and community.

5. YOU ARE NO LONGER UNDER A CURSE. STOP CHASING AFTER WITCHES AND WIZARDS AND OCCULTIC MEN.

It seems to me that when people encounter some kind of difficulty and setbacks that persist for some time, they make conclusions that they are under some curses, and afterwards spend a major part of their lives chasing after witches, wizards and curses.

Most of the prayers in our Churches actually take more time talking about what enemies and the devil are doing and can do, instead of spending more time in what God is doing and can do.

Too bad!

Do not recline to your situation with the idea that you are under a curse or that one witch from your village is the reason things aren't working. It is true that curses exist because blessings exist. We know that witches and wizards and wicked men exist, but they are not your problem.

You need to understand and convince yourself that there are more angels willing to cause good things to happen to you than there are enemies willing to cause bad in your life. This kind of conviction will help you command the many angels

of good to stop the few angels of bad.

You are not destined to be poor or miserable. No curse or witch is enough to stop you unless you accept that opinion. You are cursed only as long as you keep saying you are.

So say it:

I am blessed. Blessed to be a blessing.

6. IF YOU ARE FROM A POOR FAMILY BACKGROUND AND NO ONE TO HELP, THANK GOD, YOU'VE GOT A GREAT STORY!

Most times in the course of counseling I've had to deal with people who believe their problem and failures stem from the fact that *they came from poor family backgrounds, or that they don't have sufficient education, or that they don't have the brain, or that they have no one to assist them.* But experience has shown us that people can and do overcome these difficulties to make their lives better.

You are not the only one who came from a poor family. For instance, some people talk about those born with silver spoon. For me, I was born without a spoon at all, not to talk of silver, bronze or gold ones. But I am trying to see how to earn my own spoon.

I believe that success in life is not much of a certificate issue, as it is with doing something with your skill. Many certificate people end up being employed by the non-certificate people.

This is not to say that getting a certificate or studying for degrees is worthless. Of course not. They have their place and do give their own edge in life. What I'm trying to say is that even those who did not have the privilege of being sent

to school with full sponsorship still have equal chance at life with those who had.

Many people today are doing menial jobs while training themselves in school. If you did not have the privilege of having someone sponsor your education, you can have school come to you. With so many opportunities these days you can take online courses while you still go about your normal work activities.

If you think there is a door you can't fully maximize due to limited education why not take some part-time courses and fill that gap and make something better with your life? If you know what you want to do, you can get the necessary education that will help you do it successfully.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

“Men and women are not limited by the place of their birth, not the color of their skin but by the size of their expectation” - John Mason.

Chapter 4: Minister to Yourself in 30 Days With These Words And See Miraculous Open Doors.

Further, David was greatly distressed because the people spoke of stoning him, for all of them were embittered, each man for his sons and daughters. But David felt strengthened and encouraged in the Lord his God - 1 Samuel 30:6 (AMP).

David learned to encourage himself even in the face of great danger and threat to his life. While everyone was throwing tantrums, blaming up and down, he looked up and said,

“It is well.

God will see me through.

The best of me is coming.

I have victory and success

I will make it”

You must learn how to encourage yourself even in the face of seeming difficulty, danger and impossible situations. When you do, you create room for God’s

power to work miracles in your life.

MINISTER TO YOURSELF EVERY DAY AND SEE WONDERS.

God has designed your mouth to be the president and secretary of your life. You can use it to correctly program your thoughts and direct the events of your life. It is the construction company of your life.

Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof. - Proverbs 18:21 (KJV)

The words we speak daily bear fruits. Say good words to yourself and before you know it you would develop the kind of confidence and courage that attracts good things and open all forms of doors that were hitherto closed.

Ministering to yourself is not optional, It is compulsory.

It doesn't matter what you are going through today, tell yourself everything is working out for your own good. You may be very broke right now, but tell yourself you are moving forward. You may be deep in debt and serious pressures of meeting rent and daily expenses, but tell yourself that God loves you, and that you'll never be put to shame.

You don't need to wait for things to change before you starting talking good to yourself. You start talking good for things to start changing.

5 PROPHETIC SCRIPTURAL DECLARATIONS THAT WILL RELEASE DIVINE FAVOR INTO YOUR LIFE.

These prophetic declarations are powerful to get unusual results. They work because God's word cannot be broken. I recommend that you make these declarations in the night, just before you go to bed.

The Word of God will penetrate your entire being and you will experience great peace and favors, going forward. Here they are:

1.

“The plan of God for my life is peace and prosperity. My today and tomorrow is secure. I will not suffer harm. I will enjoy great peace and security. In Jesus name. (Jeremiah 29:11)

2.

“My body is God's temple. No sickness and disease is permitted in my body. The

death of Jesus on the cross brings me total healing. Henceforth, I am walking in divine health. I have emotional peace. I have physical health and strength. I am strong and well.(Isaiah 53:5, Psalm 103: 2-4)

3.

“I am free from condemnation, self-pity and self-judgment. I stop condemning myself from today, because I am set free by the Almighty God through Christ Jesus. I am not righteous by my own works, but by the power of the Holy Spirit. Even though I have made grave mistakes in the past, God has forgiven me by the Blood of Jesus. No one can condemn me onwards. (Romans 8:1-2)

4.

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. I have wisdom, strength and divine direction. From today, I will no longer be confused. I will know what to do, when to do it and how to do it. - (Proverbs 16:9, John 16:13, Philippians 4:13)

5.

“The minds and hearts of men are in the hand of God. From this moment, I

command men and women to work for my good, spiritually, physically and in all circumstances. I have favor with men, kings and princes. Everything and every person is working for my own good henceforth - (Prov. 21:1, Romans 8:28)

Write the above scriptural declarations out and memorize it. Say it to yourself often.... on your way to work...while in the office...before attending a meeting. Do it for the next 30 days. You'll discover unusual courage, confidence and favors flowing into your life.

There is a nice psychological word motivational speakers use to define the art ministering to yourself. It's called ***autosuggestion***.

But note that I've not called it that. Because we are obeying the word of God and building our faith, strength, courage and attitude. (See Numbers 14:28).

Convince yourself you are qualified for the best things of life. Never look down on yourself and never allow yourself to be caught in the sin of self-pity.

Chapter 5: Consult With Your Invisible Counselors

Every Day and You'll Have Solution for All Situations.

In the book, *Think and Grow Rich*, Napoleon Hill talked about what he called communicating with infinite intelligence and invisible counselors. He stated that one can tap from minds higher than it by simply creating a mental communication between it and that mind and learning what steps such great mind would take in handling issues.

Personally, I have found out that one can quickly get ideas, direction, courage and attitude by initiating this kind of communication when faced with seeming difficulties.

For instance, when faced with obstacles, challenges and criticism, I ask myself, if this was Bishop Oyedepo, what would he do? How would he react and handle this situation?

By sitting down and taking good time in such inside communication I get

priceless counsel and most times can command the right attitude towards the issue in question.

Your invisible counselors are those you personally consider role models, achievers and those whose line of achievement is what you aim as well.

Whenever you are faced with challenging situations, close your eyes and call them for a meeting or ask yourself, how such people would handle issues like that.

When you do, you will find yourself having unquestionable power and attitude to make the right decisions and overcome seemingly serious problems of life.

There is a Chinese proverb that says, “*A single conversation with a wise man is better than ten years of study.*”

By regularly engaging in such method of visual (imaginary) communication you can get powerful ideas, suggestions and even direction on growing your business, marriage, ministry and every other endeavor.

Please note that this is not human worship. We are simply getting the counsel that we would have gotten if we had the opportunity to sit with these role models.

Chapter 6: Learning From Others' Experiences Will Speed Your Progress.

One of the biggest secrets of success of men like Bill Gates and Steve Jobs is that they learned how to use the experiences of others in their businesses. I once read a report that highlighted how these men are not the greatest programmers out there, but they have the best of the best programmers who produce the great computer programs.

All successful men know how to leverage from others' knowledge and smartness without being a dictator. They build teams who are smarter than them in specific subjects and harness these teams to accomplish their overall business objectives.

The point is that waiting to learn everything from your own experiences is a hard business strategy. Trying to learn all you need from your own experiences is also very expensive. We should be smart enough to learn from others, those who know more than us, in specific areas of our pursuit.

Where necessary we should not be scared of negotiating a ***“stay deal”***

Chapter 7: These 6 Keys Will Make Your Life Dynamic.

1. FIND OUT WHAT YOU'RE GOOD AT:

You'll make a better life focusing your energies on what you're good at. Spend much of your time thinking and working on that area. You cannot succeed doing everything.

Everything (or even many things) is the road that leads to obscurity. Be a man of few things or IF POSSIBLE, one thing. In that field of life have a big goal.

Write down and state clearly what you want to accomplish

2. DIVIDE YOUR GOAL INTO DIFFERENT PHASES OF INVOLVEMENT...

If you have a plan to become an estate and land developer, you need to start from somewhere. Identifying these stages you have to go through is what I mean by somewhere. You need to ascertain the phases you would have to go through to come to your desired end.

3. READ AS MUCH AS YOU CAN ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE INTO:

Gather materials and resources. Buy books, tapes, software, whatever, invest and learn as much as you can.

There's a better way to do anything. Make contacts with those already excelling in that field. Acquire the knowledge and skill required to excel.

4. BEWARE OF DISCOURAGERS:

Do everything you can never to associate with failures in your field. This is because they will kill your faith, always telling you ten thousand reasons why it is difficult to succeed.

In every field of life there are failures and winners. There are pauper doctors and great doctors. There are miserable pastors and enviable ones. There are quack lawyers and very great ones.

In every field of life there are those making money and those losing money and value constantly. And sometimes the losers are always more in number than the winners. But look for the winners, expose yourself to them, their way of life and continuously learn from them.

5. MAKE DAILY INPUTS INTO YOUR VISION.

If you want to become a great writer, write daily. Don't wait until your English is perfect.

If you are called to be a pastor or preacher, preach to yourself daily. Prepare sermons and take notes.

Do not wait for big breaks before you start making daily seed steps towards your vision. Just do something every day.

Don't forget that big success is a collection of little successes achieved daily over a period of time.

6. MAINTAIN A CLOSE WALK WITH GOD

Do this through daily prayer and bible study habit. This will guide and help you defeat spiritual obstacles and defeat all forms of darkness and know the transition of your dreams.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

“You will not live long enough to want to learn everything that will make your life meaningful from your own experience. That's why you have to learn from others.”

Chapter 8: Life is Shorter than You Think. So Stop Procrastinating. Tomorrow Does Not Exist!

...“teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom...” - Psalm 90:12

David is simply saying here that we cannot live forever. We will surely go to our creator someday. So we have to make each day count.

1. DO A SMALL CALCULATION AND YOU’LL BE SURPRISED TO SEE HOW SHORT LIFE REALLY IS.

For instance, medical experts recommend we spend at least 8 hours in sleeping daily. They say it helps us to be healthy.

That’s great, but imagine this:

Assuming you spend 8 hours every day sleeping, it means in a year you would have spent about 2920 hours sleeping. Divide it by 24 hours that make one day and it will give you 121.66 days, meaning you would have spent 4 months plus in the year only in sleeping. Now multiply that by 70 and you have 8516.66

days. Divide it again by 365 and you will have about 23.33

Simply put, if you spend 8 hours sleeping every day, that means in a year, 4 months (121days) of your life would have gone to sleeping; and if you live up to 70 years, 23.3 years of those years would be spent sleeping.

That's not all.

Some of us spend well over 4 hours in movies and TV every day. That also means every year, 2 months actually went into films and TV and by the time you get to 70 years, 11 years and 6 months of those 70 years would have been taken by movies and television.

Remember other hours taken by gossips, transportations, vacations, et ce te ra. When you do the math properly you see that each year of your life, you actually only worked about 4 months and by the time you get to 70 years, only about 28-32 years of those was used in productive things.

1. YOU NEED TO BUCKLE UP!

Do your best today for that is actually what you have. Tomorrow only exists in the mental /spiritual ream.

Think about it. Today is the tomorrow you talked about yesterday. Every

tomorrow ends up becoming another today. If you cannot make use of today very well, you'll be programming yourself for disaster.

3. DO IT TODAY

Living to maximize today is your guarantee to a great tomorrow. Big success is a collection of little successes realized daily over a long period of time.

“What you do daily” said Mike Murdock, determines what you become permanently.”

If there is a call you think you need to make, do it today, and do it now. If there is someone you are planning to say sorry to, stop pushing it to tomorrow, stop worrying about what will be the outcome, just make the call, do it today.

I have a philosophy in life that says, do your best today and leave the rest for God. But most times, the question is, did we do our best? Did we ignore what people will say and did what we were supposed to do? Did we really do our best today?

WHATEVER YOU CAN DO TO BETTER YOUR LIFE, DON'T PUT IT FOR TOMORROW. START TODAY TOWARDS IT.

When do you intend to write those letters? Make those business calls? Submit your application for a job?

Tomorrow, right?

Well, tomorrow does not exist! Start them today.

When do you intend to start doing that assignment, that project, start writing that book? Tomorrow, right? Well, tomorrow does not exist. Start it today. Start now!

When do you intend to start taking steps towards your calling and vision, towards that business you have in mind?

Tomorrow? Next year?

Next Time?

Huh?

Well, tomorrow does not exist. Start today.

You will never really know what you can do until you try. Waiting for the perfect time equals waiting till eternity. Everything will never become perfect for you to start. Just begin. Take the first steps today. Other things will start opening up.

To reach somewhere you have to start somewhere! And the best way to start is to

start – where you are – with what you have.

Don't worry about things you don't have. What you already have will create what you want – if you put them into use. Don't forget, what you cannot start, you cannot finish.

You had some stupid dreams of death and other stuff and you want to do some fasting and praying about them but you prefer to start tomorrow, maybe next time, next week, next Sunday, or when God speaks to you, huh?

Well, God has spoken. Tomorrow does not exist. Start today – anyhow. Maybe 6-10AM. Just start somewhere. Do something.

If you see a grave against your life, start closing it today – immediately.

If you leave it for tomorrow, by then it would have widened.

Whatever you can do to better your life, don't put it for tomorrow – Tomorrow does not exist – start today towards it.

**HOW TO OVERCOME PRASTINATION AND
MAKE THE BEST OF EACH DAY OF YOUR LIFE.**

- Always start each day of your life in the presence to God with prayer and bible study
- ***Always have a plan of action each day of your life...***it is not enough to have in your mind what and what you intend to do for the day. Sit down and put them on paper.
- ***Take action until you get things done.*** A postponed assignment, which should have been done today, increases the burden of tomorrow! *“Procrastination is a graveyard to every good intention”*. *“Never put off till tomorrow what you can do today”* advised Thomas Jefferson.
- ***Play Down on Trivialities.*** The principle of ***factor sparsity*** says that 20% of what you do generate 80% of your results while 80% of your activities only generate 20%. Find the small things you do that bring you the most success and concentrate more on them every day.
- ***Always close your day with thanksgiving.*** Pray together with your family. The family that prays together stays together. Do not become so busy or tired that you don't have a prayer and Bible study time with your household daily

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

“If you want a healthy teeth in the future brush your teeth today”-

Robert Kiyosaki,

Chapter 9: Practice the Law Of Large Numbers and You'll Experience Breakthrough Quickly!

The law of large numbers states that an experiment is more likely to yield accurate result after many trials.

Even though this is a scientific law, it suitably applies in our quest for a meaningful life.

You are more likely to get better results in your endeavors after many trials and attempts. So you must never give up anytime soon.

THE STORY OF SOICHIRO HONDA (FOUNDER OF HODA MOTORS)

When you hear the name Honda today, you are quickly reminded of a strong brand in the automobile world. But when you trace the history of this world – wide brand, you will see behind it a story of failure after failure, motivation and persistence in the face of adversity.

The story serves as an important lesson for all of us and it teaches us not to give up when we suffer a setback. Despite suffering failure, ridicule and endless financial difficulties, Honda believed strongly enough in himself to make his success a reality.

Soichiro Honda was born in 1906 and he grew up helping his father repair bicycles in the small town of Komyo in Japan. While Soichiro Honda was in school he started a workshop with the intention of developing a piston ring which he planned to sell on to Toyota. He spent day and night working away in his workshop believing that he could produce the perfect design. He struggled financially during this period, even selling his wife's jewelry for capital and occasionally slept in his workshop.

When he finally completed his finished piston ring, Soichiro took his design to Toyota who told him that his work was not up to their standards. After suffering this terrible setback, Soichiro was forced to go back to school and was taunted by those around him for failing. Other engineers laughed at his design but Soichiro refused to give up despite being ridiculed by those around him. He paid little attention to school work that did not relate to his business and, when verbally attacked by his teacher, Honda responded that 'A ticket will get you a seat in a movie theater, but a diploma won't get you a job!'

Soichiro believed strongly in his idea and refused to give up on his dream. He

struggled on for two more years before finally gaining a contract with Toyota. But by this time Japan was gearing up for war and Honda found it hard to find the building materials he needed to create a factory to produce his work. Despite this potentially disastrous set back, Honda persisted and found a new way of making concrete which allowed him to finish building the factory he needed.

Sadly this was not the end of Soichiro's troubles as the factory he had struggled so hard to build was bombed twice during the war and steel became unavailable.

Whilst most people would have given up at this point, Honda persisted and found a way to get past these obstacles. He started collecting gasoline cans which had been discarded by US fighters to help regenerate his factory, objects he described as "gifts from President Truman".

When Honda started rebuilding his factory an earthquake finally destroyed it. This setback would have spelled the end for most people but Honda carried on chasing his dream.

After the war, Honda found a way of attaching a small engine onto his bicycle and quickly found that other people were interested in his strange new idea.

Sadly the materials Honda needed were not available to supply the demand for his new creation. Rather than give up, Honda dug deep and sought out a way to get the finance he needed to continue with his project. He wrote an inspiring

letter to 18,000 bicycle shop owners which asked them to help him revitalize Japan through innovation. A huge number of the shop owners he wrote to responded by giving Honda what little money they could to help him. Soichiro battled away with several redesigns before finally producing the ‘Super Cub’ which became an overnight success. By 1963, Honda was the top-selling brand of motorcycles in the United States.

Honda Corporation now employs more than 100,000 people in the USA and Japan and it is now second only to Toyota in Japan.

Honda succeeded because of the passion and determination of one man who was committed to his ideas and making them a success. Despite suffering more failures and setbacks than most of us will see in a lifetime, Honda persisted and never once allowed himself to give up on his dreams.

Honda said: “*Success is 99 percent failure*”

TRY, TRY AND TRY SOME MORE!

People tend to give up on their noble cause or idea when they encounter some kind of defeat. But life has proved to only favor those who stay long enough in the game that even defeat and failure becomes tired of them.

“The law of numbers favors only those who make many attempts.”

I have a friend who wrote JAMB (an independent examination conducted only once a year that you must pass before you can gain admission to study in any university in Nigeria) eight times before he made his score and got admission into the university. That means my friend failed JAMB 7 consecutive times, seven years in a row.

Sometimes we may have to hit many times at a door before it opens. We have to keep making attempts and trying before we see signs of life in what we are working at.

If my friend had given up when it seemed the best thing for him to do he would not have had the opportunity of going through the university and becoming a Lab Scientist.

No matter how many times you have failed in the pursuit of your goal never quit. You may seek another route; you may seek another strategy, but by all means, keep trying. *“All great success stories are punctuated with failures,”* says Charles Poissant.

**WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU TRY SOMETHING
AND FAIL.**

When you encounter defeat it's a waste of time regretting your mistakes and failures. That is the only way to hurt your future.

1. *Accept Responsibility:*

Accept responsibility for any defeat or failure you experience. Learn your lessons immediately and try not to look for whom to blame.

2. *Pray:*

Some defeats, losses and failures can be very emotionally painful. But "*Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal,*" - Thomas Moore. So when you seem to be faced with the worst, pray. Pray. Pray. There is no right and wrong pattern for me when it comes to prayer. I talk to God the way I feel without following any set pattern. No pretensions! I ask for His grace and strength and He always sustains and provides.

3. *Re-Strategize:*

Failure after failure is a sign you need another strategy. When you have done something a long time without tangible proofs, it's a sign you're not doing it right, it's a call you must devise another strategy or that you need a better skill. But let every strategy you devise be ones to move you forward. Remember that anytime you look back you take a step backward and reduce a step forward. John

Mason said, “*You don’t go forward looking backward*”.

NO MATTER WHAT YOU HAVE LOST, YOU STILL HAVE SOMETHING TO COUNT ON.

God does not use what you have lost, He uses what you have remaining! He will use what you have remaining to create better turnovers. So no matter what you have lost, count what you have left and move on.

You lost your job – thank God it’s not your life you lost. You lost your business – thank God you still have life. You lost your car – thank God you know how to drive. Quit bemoaning your situation and start over to build your life again.

When there is no one to encourage you, encourage yourself and go forward. When there is none to comfort and motivate you – fire yourself on and move. When no one appreciates your efforts, appreciate yourself and do more. In everything, in every situation, proceed!

“A bend in the road is not the end of the journey,” says Robert Schuller.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

All great success stories are punctuated with failures - Charles Poissant.

Chapter 10: Sometimes You Need To Break Rules And Protocols.

Many people actually go back from their pursuits when they are very close to their solution because they won't break protocols or take risks. I remember in those days when I was desperately searching for a job. There was this vacancy I filled an application for even though I did not have the required certificate and years of experience. You know what I mean.

I knew I would not be called for the interview because I did not meet up with the requirements so I devised a different way to have a meeting with the management. Not knowing the meeting was for the job the man in charge gave me an appointment. It was there I told him I was the best person for this job even though I didn't have the required certificate and experience. I narrated to them why I should be given the job. I did not tell them its because I need their money to survive (but you know I do), rather I gave them a plan of things I intend to do that will move their business forward. They saw the desperation and willingness in me and gave me the job.

So I won.

Obviously, that's not a normal way to get a job. I broke the rules and all the protocols. But it was worth it.

Be willing to dig through the roof above and lower down your mat instead of living without a meaning. That is, take positive risks. Do unusual things to get to your goal. Break some rules – break some limiting protocols!

Men who strike gold do not dig with shovel, spade or knife. They dig with something harder. You cannot follow conventional approach and arrive at GOLD STREET. Don't follow the "as usual" street because it ends at nowhere.

The crowd (public opinions...this is the way it has always been done) is very good at stopping one from getting through. Only men of concrete determination beat them by following "UNUSUAL STREET" and strategies.

Never abandon your goal, vision or project because you discover that some risks are involved, or because the game became tough. Tough games often attract better rewards. Someone noted, "It is risky not to take risks". It is better to fail trying something great, than succeed daring nothing.

Do unusual things to get to your goal so long as no one is harmed or cheated. Great men take right risks.

God will keep silent until He sees enough desire, push and desperation in you towards the deepest desires of your heart and of His assignment for your life. The door of Opportunity always and only opens for those who are continuously making attempts.

FULFIL THE PROPHECIES THAT HAS BEEN MADE ON YOUR LIFE.

So many prophecies of success and blessings have gone ahead of you, both from your parents, loved ones and pastors. But nothing will happen until you get up and seriously start thinking of how to get out of where you are now to a better place.

Paul told Timothy, “Fight for the prophecies that has been made on you!” (Paraphrased). Unless you get up from where you are now and begin to make continuous, positive, determined, radical, mad moves towards your deepest desires heaven won’t come in. You’ll remain where you are and even die there.

Your situation cannot change unless you do something – even if it means taking some risks.

If you must break your head, break it while in the fight to give your life a meaning and not from a slippery ground. If you must die, die while in the

genuine pursuit for a better life.

Bishop David Oyedepo said, “Life does not give you what you deserve, life gives you what you demand.”

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

A man's God only gets into action when that person rises to confront his situation with a determination never to turn back without a change.

Chapter 11: Forgive, Forget And Embrace.

Let me state it ahead of time: forgiveness is not what you have to feel to do. It is also not easy to exercise forgiveness. On almost all occasion you won't feel to forgive. You will have enough reasons not to forgive. But you always have to let the past be completely gone to embrace the future.

Who do you forgive?

1. FORGIVE YOURSELF:

You would have messed up so many times in the past and missed so many opportunities. But forgive yourself. Tell yourself and mean it:

I forgive myself. I know I have not really done well in the past but I forgive myself. I'm not a failure. With God's help I'll keep trying. I know good things are ahead of me.

2. FORGIVE GOD:

You'd be surprised how many of us keep blaming God for all the bad things that

have happened to us.

Even though God never contributed to make our situations worse, we sometimes find ourselves asking, *“but why did God this and why did God that?”*

No need for long preaching here. Forgive God and move on. He actually loves you more than you think. Tell yourself, *“God I forgive you and I’m sorry for actually blaming You in any way. I KNOW You love me. I accept You as a good and loving father henceforth”*

3. FORGIVE THE GOVERNMENT:

I agree that our government has not actually treated us well. But you have to move on. Forgive the government, clear yourself of any form of bitterness towards the leaders and create your open doors.

Tell yourself:

“Well, this government I forgive you. You have not really done well, but I forgive you henceforth. I receive grace to quit blaming people in government and move on doing my own best within my own environment”

4. FORGIVE YOUR PARENTS OR

CHILDREN.

Most times in my life I have blamed my parents for not doing their best to put my siblings and me on equal standing with others in life. And apart from that my childhood memory is filled with unusual wickedness meted out to my parents and us by the extended family members. I was always keeping these records praying to pay back at the appropriate time.

But I found out I've got to let these things go if I'll have to move on with my life. Whatever wrong your parents or family members, whether paternal or maternal family members, has done against you in the past, forgive and receive God's peace and move on. Clear those records off your mind.

5. FORGIVE THOSE WHO HAVE HURT YOU IN THE PAST:

Yes. Forgive those guys who betrayed you. Forgive those people who made you lose the contract or job and never cared. Forgive those people who took you for granted. Forgive those guys willfully owing you money and not wanting to pay.

Forgive. Forgive. Forgive.

Close your eyes and say:

“LORD help me forgive this... I forgive him/her for this... Bless him. Help him...”

Forgive and receive God’s peace in your life and an unusual open door. Trying to carry out vengeance on your own will always give you more trouble.

Withdraw all plans and setups to avenge in any matter case. Pray the above “forgiveness prayer” and let God and the universe come into the matter.

6. MAKE AMENDS AND LET THE SUN SHINE BRIGHTER

To enter into your open doors you need to make amends. Find out within yourself if you’ve done things that hurt someone in the past. Take steps to make amends.

Few days ago, I had to call my family together and apologize to everyone. Sometimes as men we want to exercise authority and even do it to the unhappiness of others.

I have discovered that most times when I’m broke I’m often irritated and allow this irritation to burn towards others, especially my wife and immediate family

members. So I did have to say sorry to every one of them.

Don't be too proud to call your family members together and say, "I am sorry. I've not treated all of you well in the past. Please everyone, forgive me."

It doesn't reduce you, rather it adds to you. As a woman don't be too proud to say to your husband and family (children and house assistants) "I am sorry. I messed up. Forgive me everyone."

As a leader or manager don't be too proud to make amends with your juniors. Saying I am sorry doesn't make you smaller than anyone. It is not saying sorry that actually makes you small and closes your doors.

Those people you owe call them and say sorry. Start making plans to repay them. Look deep inside yourself and desire to make amends with anyone or group of persons that your actions of ignorance have hurt in the past.

Those people, who helped you in the past that you did not say thanks to, call them and apologize.

You're about to experience a great season of favor in your life. Nothing will stop you.

Chapter 12: Ask, Seek, Knock, Or Break The Door!

One of the things I have learned and sold to myself in life is that *if you don't do something, nothing will happen*. And in this book I have tried to preach that message in every chapter and almost every page.

Miracles do not fall from the sky. They come in response to our desperate actions of faith to have a better life.

If you don't do something, nothing will happen, no matter how hard they pray and prophesy over you!

Get up now and start knocking on doors.

If you need to attend a business or marriage seminar, please do. Go learn how to mend your marriage or run a business.

If you need to ask for help, please do. When you are turned down here, try there.

If you need to sit down and fast and pray for 3 days for a new idea, please do. If

you need to start a small business or a part-time business, please do. If you need to go and learn computer or any other craft, please do.

But by all means, do something today and everyday to move your life forward!

Ask, seek, knock and the doors shall open, but if it doesn't open, break the door.

God bless you.

CONTACT US

Thank you for reading this book. I believe you have been blessed. Please consider giving it a review on Amazon.

I also invite you to checkout our website at www.BetterLifeWorld.org and consider joining [our newsletter](#), which we send out once in a while with great tips, testimonies and revelations from God's Word for a victorious living.

Feel free to [drop us your prayer request](#). We will join faith with you and God's power will be released in your life and the issue in question.

I also invite you to check out other titles on our website or Amazon.

We'd be very happy if you can share this book with others.

Remain blessed.

Other Books from the Same Author.

Thank you for reading this book. I believe the ideas in this book will impact your life positively. Please find below some other books that the LORD has led and empowered me to write. These materials will be a great blessing to you.

1. [Healing Prayers: 30 Powerful Prophetic Prayers that Brings Healing and Empower You to Walk in Divine Health.](#)
2. [Healing WORDS: 55 Powerful Daily Confessions & Declarations to Activate Your Healing & Walk in Divine Health: Strong Decrees That Invoke Healing for You & Your Loved Ones](#)
3. [Prayers That Break Curses and Spells and Release Favors and Breakthroughs.](#)
4. [7 Nights Fasting With 120 Powerful Night Prayers for Personal Deliverance and Breakthrough.](#)
5. [100 Powerful Prayers for Teenagers](#)
6. [How to Pray for Your Family: + 70 Powerful Prayers and Prophetic Declarations for Your Family's Salvation, Healing, Victory, Breakthrough & Total Restoration.](#)
7. [Daily Prayer Guide: A Practical Guide to Praying and Getting Results – Learn How to Develop a Powerful Personal Prayer Life](#)

8. [Make Him Respect You: 31 Relationship Advice for Women to Make their Men Respect Them.](#)

See all at: www.amazon.com/author/danielokpara

ABOUT THE AUTHOR.



Rev. Daniel Okpara brings you the message of hope, healing, deliverance and total restoration. A humble minister and teacher of God's Word, businessman and lecturer, he is a strong believer that with God all things are possible.

Yes. The challenges of life are real, but with faith, you will surely win. Your health, relationship, and finances can be restored by God's grace and power, no matter how bad things are at the moment.

He is the international director of Better Life World Outreach Center, a non-denominational, evangelism ministry committed to:

- Taking the entire Gospel to the entire world, from village to village, town to town, city to city, state to state and nation to nation, in partnership with established churches.]

- Training ministers, evangelists, and missionaries and providing them with tools, resources and impartation for the end-time assignment.
- Restoring the evangelism fire in the body of Christ through church workers' revivals and training.
- Producing evangelism materials and tools (films, tracts, books, devotionals) for rural, screen and world evangelism.

He is the host of Better Life Today, a Monthly non-denominational fellowship meeting that receives hundreds of people each month for spiritual fellowship, ministrations, prayers, business workshops, worship, healing, miracles and diverse encounters with God. He also co-hosts a popular radio and TV program, "Keys to a Better Life", aired on over 10 radio and TV stations across the country.

Daniel Okpara holds a Master's Degree in Theology from Cornerstone Christian University. As a strong believer in hard work, continuous learning and prosperity by value creation, he is also the founder of Integrity Assets Ltd, a real estate and IT consulting company that manages an eCommerce startup and consults for companies on Digital Marketing.

He has authored over 50 books and manuals on healing, prayer, Marriage and

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He is married to Prophetess Doris Okpara, a prayer warrior, and great support and they are blessed with a boy and a girl, Isaac and Annabel.