



# EMPOWERED

Simple Steps To Align Career With Your Calling

Bimbo Ilori

***Empowered***  
***Simple Steps To Align Career With Calling***

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4 Shaba street Hadejia road  
Kano, Nigeria, West Africa.  
+234 09028763627  
Email: kingswitbloc@gmail.com

For further information  
Send an email to: savedforeal19@gmail.com



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## **Dedication**

To all those who dare to dream and act with purpose.  
May this book empower you to step into your true potential, embrace your calling, and live a life of impact and fulfillment. You are capable of greatness.

## **Acknowledgements**

I am deeply grateful to my family for their constant support, to my mentors for their invaluable wisdom, and to my dedicated team for helping bring this book to life. Your contributions have made this journey possible. Thank you for your encouragement and belief in this vision.

## **Author's Note**

Throughout this book, you'll encounter stories and scenarios designed to reflect the realities of the concepts shared.

Please note that all names used in contemporary illustrations are either entirely fictional or have been altered to preserve privacy. While the lessons are real and inspired by true-to-life patterns, any resemblance to actual persons, living or deceased, is purely coincidental and unintentional.

These examples are used to deepen understanding and offer relatable reflections without compromising anyone's personal journey.

Thank you for reading with empathy and wisdom.

With love and purpose,

**Bimbo Ilori**

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# Introduction

## You Were Made for More Than a Job

### Why do you work?

For many, it's to pay the bills, support a family, or chase success. But deep within, there's often a deeper longing, a quiet desire for something more meaningful. You were not just made to work, but to walk in purpose. Not just to earn, but to impact. Not merely to have a career, but to live a life of alignment.

This book is for the visionary within you, the one who believes that your career can be more than a series of tasks. It's for the professional seeking clarity, the employee longing for deeper fulfillment, and the individual who knows that purpose and passion are meant to intersect.

In *Empowered*, you will discover how to:

- Identify your God-given passions and strengths
- Realign your mindset and values with your assignment

- Turn your job or profession into a platform for purpose
- Navigate transitions, setbacks, and uncertainty with clarity
- Influence your environment and lead with integrity and faith

You don't have to leave your job to live out your calling. You can be purposeful right where you are. Many people fulfilling purpose today do so within organizations, as intrapreneurs.

These are individuals who bring innovation, initiative, and impact to their roles. They think like owners, serve with excellence, and lead with vision, all while being part of a bigger system. They are empowered from within, not by title, but by intention.

Each chapter of this book offers simple steps, thoughtful reflections, and faith-rooted insights to help you close the gap between what you do and who you are called to be. With stories, scriptures, and strategies, you'll be equipped to live and work with clarity, confidence, and conviction.

You are not just here to survive the workday. You are here to fulfill a divine assignment.  
You are here to be Empowered.

Let's begin the journey.

# Chapter One

## The Empowerment Mindset

### Discovering the Reason Behind Your Work and Embracing a Purpose-Filled Outlook

Tolu sat in the parking lot for ten minutes before walking into the office building. Every day, the routine was the same, get dressed, show up, perform tasks, smile in meetings, and count down the hours. To anyone else, she seemed successful. A steady job, good pay, and even a promotion last quarter. But inside, something felt missing. She wasn't unhappy, but she wasn't fulfilled either.

One afternoon, a conversation with her mentor shifted everything.

"Tolu," he said gently, "what if you're not just here to do work, but to release light? What if your assignment isn't about your role but about your reason?"

That was the beginning of her mindset shift, from seeing work as duty to recognizing it as a divine deployment.

## **Work Is Not a Curse**

Many people subconsciously see work as a punishment or a necessary evil. But in Genesis, God gave Adam work before the fall.

*The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. Genesis 2:15 NIV.*

Work, therefore, is not a curse, it is a calling. It is a platform to express creativity, steward gifts, and bring order and value to the world. The mindset you carry into your work determines how you show up daily.

**When you understand that you are placed, not just positioned, everything changes.**

## **Embracing a Stewardship Mentality**

You are not just an employee. You are a steward, of time, talent, relationships, and opportunities. Whether you're a cleaner, a consultant, or a corporate executive, your role matters in God's economy.

*Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters. Colossians 3:23 NIV.*

When your mindset shifts from “I have to work” to “I get to serve,” the mundane becomes meaningful.

**Tasks become ministry. You start to see excellence as worship and diligence as obedience.**

### **Intrapreneurs: Empowered Within the System**

In today’s world, not everyone will be called to start a business, but many are called to think and operate like intrapreneurs, people who innovate, create, and lead within existing organizations. They don’t wait for permission to bring purpose. They look for needs and meet them, driven by vision and values.

Joseph, in Egypt, was one such intrapreneur. He worked within Pharaoh’s system, but his heart was aligned with heaven. He was not just employed, he was empowered.

*The Lord was with Joseph and gave him success in everything he did. Genesis 39:23 NIV.*

Joseph’s mindset allowed him to rise, even in unfamiliar territory. He brought divine solutions to real-world problems, and so can you.

### **The Power of Perspective**

Here’s the truth: two people can be in the same job, one thriving and fulfilled, the other frustrated and disconnected. The difference is not the role - it’s the mindset.

## **Ask yourself:**

Do I see my job as a mission field or a prison?

Am I working only for money, or am I pursuing meaning?

Do I show up with entitlement or with expectation to serve?

When you begin to answer these questions honestly, you step into empowerment.

## **A New Declaration**

You are not just here to earn a living; you are here to give life. You are a carrier of light, solutions, ideas, healing, and hope. Your workplace is your field, and you are the sower. Start with a new declaration:

"I am not just employed, I am deployed. I am on assignment. I bring light, excellence, and purpose into every room I enter."

## **Reflection Questions:**

1. What has been your mindset about work until now?
2. Where might God be calling you to shift your perspective?

3. In what ways can you begin to serve with intention in your current role?

**Action Steps:**

- Journal what “being deployed by God” in your current role looks like
- Identify one area this week where you can serve more intentionally
- Memorize and meditate on Colossians 3:23, see your job as an offering

**Declaration**

I am created with purpose and equipped to thrive in my work. I embrace my unique calling and commit to walking in the fullness of the gifts God has given me. I will no longer work just for a paycheck but will use every opportunity to honor Him and impact others with purpose.

**Prayer**

Father, thank You for reminding me that I am not just working for a paycheck, but for a purpose. Help me see the significance of each task, no matter how small, and to approach my work with a mindset of empowerment. Give me clarity to understand my calling and the courage to live it out daily. Amen.

**Purpose is not just a dream we chase; it's the reality we live every day through what we do**

# Chapter Two

## Redefining Work- From Job to Calling

### **Understanding the Difference Between a Paycheck and a Purpose-Aligned Profession**

When Kunle landed his dream job in a multinational company, it was everything he had prayed for. Great pay, prestige, a beautiful office space, and a clear career path. But six months in, a quiet dissatisfaction began to grow. The excitement wore off, and the daily tasks felt mechanical. One day, after yet another long meeting, he muttered under his breath, “There has to be more to life than just this.”

And there is.

### **From Job Description to Divine Assignment**

Many people spend their lives trying to “find a job” instead of discovering their calling. But a job and a calling are not always the same. A job is what you do to earn, survive, or progress. A calling is the reason you were created, a divine assignment that brings meaning and impact.

You may begin with a job, but your goal is to step into your divine expression through that job or beyond it.

*We are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 NIV.*

God doesn't just give careers, He gives callings. But He can use your career to fulfill that calling. The question is: Are you allowing your job to serve your calling, or have you let your job become your identity?

## **Understanding the Layers**

1. A Job – Provides income.
2. A Career – Provides progression.
3. A Calling – Provides fulfillment and eternal reward.

When you view your job as the end, frustration eventually sets in. But when you see your job as a vehicle, you begin to ask, "Lord, what do You want to do through me here?" That shift changes everything.

## **Paul: Tentmaker With a Mission**

In Acts 18:3, we learn that Paul was a tentmaker by trade. Yet, we know him not because of his craftsmanship, but because of his calling, to preach, teach, and transform lives. His job funded his mission. It gave him access. But he never confused his skill with his assignment.

Like Paul, many believers today are called to be professionals, with a greater purpose in mind. Your workplace can be a platform, not just a paycheck. A mission field, not just a meeting space.

## **The Trap of Titles**

If your identity is tied to your title, you'll constantly seek promotion, praise, or position to feel valuable. **But your true worth doesn't come from your role. It comes from your relationship with God and the value you bring through purpose.**

This is why some people can feel more fulfilled volunteering after hours than they do in their high-paying jobs. Fulfillment follows alignment, not affluence.

*Better a little with the fear of the Lord than great wealth with turmoil. Proverbs 15:16 NIV.*

## **Marketplace Ministers and Intrapreneurs**

The modern-day church must embrace a new vision of ministry, one that includes boardrooms, hospitals, classrooms, studios, and shops. God is raising marketplace ministers and intrapreneurs, those who serve within systems, but carry a kingdom mandate.

You don't need a pulpit to preach. Your life is the message. Your work ethic is your sermon. Your integrity, creativity, and compassion speak loudly. You are not just clocking in, you are carrying out kingdom work.

### **Clarify, Don't Quit (Yet)**

It's important to note: not everyone needs to leave their job to walk in purpose. For many, the answer is not "resign," but "realign." Realign your perspective. Realign your service. Realign your priorities.

The issue is not always relocation, it's often definition. When you redefine your work, your energy returns. Joy reappears. Excellence becomes easier.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Have you viewed your job as a destination or a tool?
2. In what ways can your current role serve your larger calling?

3. What title or role are you clinging to for identity that God may be asking you to surrender?

**Action Steps:**

- Journal the differences between your job, your skills, and your calling
- Prayerfully ask God how your current season is preparing you for purpose
- Look for one new way this week to add value beyond your job description

**Declaration**

I no longer see work as just a job; I see it as a calling. Every task, every responsibility, every interaction is an opportunity to live out God's purpose for my life. I embrace the transformation from mere employment to divine assignment.

**Prayer**

Lord, open my eyes to see that my work is not just a means to an end but a platform for fulfilling Your purpose. Help me shift my perspective, from working for a paycheck to working for Your glory. May I see each opportunity as a step in fulfilling the calling You have placed on my life. Amen.

**When your job becomes a calling, the work becomes an act of worship.**

## **Chapter Three**

### **Passion Uncovered – What Truly Moves You?**

#### **Identifying Your Core Passions and How They Point to Your Calling**

As a child, I loved to organize pretend schools. Her dolls were her students, and she would teach them, mark their assignments, and even give reports to imaginary parents. Everyone thought she was just being playful. But even as an adult working in finance, she still felt a strong pull to teach, nurture, and help people grow.

It wasn't until she led a personal finance workshop at her church that everything clicked. "This is it," she said. "This is what I was made to do, help people grow, learn, and thrive."

That moment wasn't just a spark - it was a signal. Passion is often the clue that leads you to purpose.

## **What Is Passion?**

**Passion is not just what excites you. It's what burdens you, what angers you, what you can't ignore, what you're drawn to, what you find yourself returning to even after life pulls you away.**

It is the intersection of what breaks your heart, fuels your energy, and ignites your creativity.

*For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purpose. Philippians 2:13 NIV.*

God doesn't just call you, He equips you with desires, interests, and motivations that align with your purpose.

## **Signs of a God-Given Passion**

1. You lose track of time doing it.
2. You're energized, not drained, by it.
3. People are impacted when you engage in it.
4. It often shows up in childhood.
5. It remains, even when hidden beneath responsibilities.

Don't underestimate the activities or interests that move you emotionally. The thing that frustrates or excites you the most may be God's whisper, pointing you to what He wants to solve through you.

### **Moses: The Passion That Sparked Purpose**

Before Moses was ever called from the burning bush, we see a glimpse of his passion. In Exodus 2:11-12, he saw an Egyptian mistreating a Hebrew and acted in defense. Though the method was wrong, the burden for justice was real.

That same passion to deliver and protect his people, was later refined and redirected by God into his calling to lead Israel out of Egypt.

Your passion may be raw at first. It might show up in your frustrations, your tears, or your relentless curiosity. But once yielded to God, it becomes powerful and pure.

### **Don't Confuse Passion with Platform**

Passion isn't always about fame or visibility. You may be passionate about children, but that doesn't mean you must start a school. You may love writing, but that doesn't mean you'll publish books immediately.

Passion leads to purpose, but purpose requires process. Let your passion guide you, but let God shape the path.

## **The Risk of Ignoring Passion**

Too many people bury their passion under “what pays.” But what pays today may cost you peace tomorrow, if it chokes your purpose. You can work for money and still serve meaning, but it requires intentional pursuit.

Remember, passion isn't an escape from responsibility, it's an expression of obedience. You are stewarding something divine when you follow it.

*Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4 NIV.*

As you walk closely with God, He purifies your desires and uses them to draw you into the very thing He designed you to do.

### **Reflection Questions:**

- What did you love doing as a child before life told you it wasn't practical?
- What activities or topics energize you, even without a reward?
- What injustices, problems, or people tug at your heart?

### **Action Steps:**

- Write down three things you would do for free if money wasn't an issue.
- Talk to people close to you: ask what they see you come alive doing.
- Observe recurring themes in your daydreams, ideas, and burdens, they are pointing you somewhere.

### **Declaration**

I am uniquely wired with passions that reflect God's purpose for my life. I will no longer overlook what excites and energizes me, but I will align those passions with the work He has called me to do. I trust that my passions are the keys to discovering my true purpose.

### **Prayer**

Father, thank You for placing passions within me that reflect Your heart and purposes. Help me discover what truly moves me and guide me in using those passions for Your glory. Let my work be an expression of the passions You've given me, and may they bring others closer to You. Amen.

**Passion is the spark that ignites purpose; without it, work becomes just a task, not a calling.**

# Chapter Four

## Mapping Your Strengths and Skills

### Taking Inventory of Your Abilities and How They Can Serve Your Purpose

When Amaka lost her job during a company restructuring, she was devastated. But just a few weeks into her job search, something unexpected began to unfold. Friends started reaching out, not for sympathy, but for help with their résumés, LinkedIn profiles, and interview preparation. She didn't just assist them; she excelled at it. And she enjoyed it deeply.

"I just thought it was something I did naturally," she said. What Amaka didn't realize was that the very thing she dismissed as *ordinary* was actually a *strength*, one that carried a divine clue for the next chapter of her life.

We often look too far ahead, desperately searching for purpose, when the tools we need are already in our hands.

God asked Moses in Exodus 4:2, “*What is that in your hand?*” And Moses replied, “*A staff.*” It seemed ordinary, even insignificant. But in God’s hands, that staff parted seas, summoned miracles, and symbolized authority.

## **Strengths Are Seeds of Purpose**

Your gifts and skills are not random, they are *intentional deposits* from God. They act as clues, pointing toward the vision He has for your life. When you begin to identify and map them, patterns emerge. And these patterns reveal pathways, toward purpose, calling, and contribution.

*We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. Romans 12:6 NIV.*

Your gifts are tied to grace, and your grace is tied to your purpose.

## **Three Kinds of Strengths to Map**

### **1. Natural Intelligences**

These are things you’ve always been good at, writing, organizing, leading, creating, analyzing, or speaking. They often show up in childhood, unnoticed or undervalued, because they come so easily.

## **2. Learned Skills**

These are competencies you've developed through training, experience, or exposure. While not always “natural,” they are powerful assets you’ve cultivated through discipline and practice.

## **3. Spiritual Gifts**

These are supernatural endowments from God to serve others and fulfill His purpose. They include gifts like wisdom, encouragement, teaching, discernment, and administration. Unlike natural talent, these flow from grace and require spiritual alignment.

**When these three overlap, you enter your *Purpose Zone*, the place where your capability meets your calling.**

## **The Parable of the Talents**

In Matthew 25:14–30, Jesus tells the story of three servants entrusted with different amounts of talents. Two multiplied theirs; one buried his out of fear. The lesson? What you’ve been given is meant to be *used, multiplied, and released*.

If you bury your strengths due to fear, comparison, or complacency, you risk missing the impact God intended for you to make.

## **Intrapreneurs: Strength in Service**

You don't need a title or a business card to operate in purpose. Many are called to be **intrapreneurs**, innovators and leaders who bring purpose-driven value within organizations. They may not own the business, but they steward ownership where they serve.

Whether you're in finance or healthcare, education or tech, your strength toolbox moves with you, even when your job title changes.

### **Stop Overlooking What Comes Naturally**

One of the enemy's greatest strategies is to make your strengths feel *small*. But what seems ordinary to you may be extraordinary to someone else.

- That eye for detail? A strength.
- The way you listen and empathize? A strength.
- Your ability to simplify complexity? A strength.

Stop disqualifying your gifts because they don't seem dramatic. God doesn't need the *spectacular*; He needs the *surrendered*.

### **Reflection and Action**

**Reflection Questions:** • What do people consistently thank or praise you for?

- What have you excelled at without formal training?
- What energizes you and feels natural when you're doing it?

**Action Steps:**

- List 10 strengths or skills you've used in your job, church, or community.
- Take a spiritual gifts test or a strengths-based assessment for clarity.
- Ask three trusted people to name your top three strengths, they may see what you don't.

## **Faith Declaration**

I am uniquely designed, divinely wired, and purposefully positioned. My strengths are not accidents, they are keys to my assignment. I will no longer overlook, minimize, or bury what God has invested in me. I choose to steward, grow, and multiply what I've been given.

## **Prayer**

Father, thank You for the gifts, strengths, and skills You have placed in me. Open my eyes to see what I've ignored or undervalued. Teach me not to compare, but to steward what I have with confidence and faith. Help me use my strengths to serve others and fulfill the calling You've placed on my life. Amen.

**When you discover what you're good at and why it matters, you stop working for recognition and start working with revelation.**

# Chapter Five

## The Alignment Blueprint

### **Practical Steps to Align Your Current Career or Transition into One That Reflects Your Calling**

The first time Tunde heard the phrase "career-calling alignment," it sounded like a buzzword. He thought calling was only for pastors or missionaries. But when his job started feeling like a cage instead of a calling, he knew something had to shift. Tunde didn't quit immediately. Instead, he started praying, evaluating, adjusting, and eventually realigning. What followed wasn't a resignation, but a reawakening. His same job became a different assignment because he showed up differently, with purpose.

### **What Is Alignment?**

Alignment means your values, passions, skills, and vision are in sync with how and where you work. It doesn't always mean changing jobs; sometimes, it means changing your approach, mindset, or position.

*Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and He will establish your plans. Proverbs 16:3 NIV.*

God doesn't only bless our dreams, He guides our plans when we submit them to Him. Career alignment begins with surrender.

## **From Job to Calling – Understanding the Shift**

In the kingdom of God, work is not just about earning a living; it is also about becoming the person God designed you to be. A good employee is developed not just in the technical aspects of their job but in the values that shape their character. When you view your work as a calling, it becomes a tool for shaping your life.

**What does this look like in practical terms?** It's about taking ownership of the fact that your job is not just a means to an end; it's a process of your own evolution. As you invest in your work, it works on you. Your skills are refined, and your character is tested. The same job that might have once felt mundane now becomes a platform for personal transformation and kingdom work.

## **Five Practical Steps for Alignment**

- 1. Assess Where You Are**
  - What do you love or dislike about your current role?

- Are your gifts being used or suppressed?
  - Is the environment toxic or growth-oriented?
2. This honest assessment helps determine whether you need an adjustment in your approach, or a full transition. Don't just focus on external factors; evaluate the internal alignment of your heart and mind with your role. Sometimes the change required is within you.

### 3. **Clarify Your Vision**

- What kind of impact do I desire to make through my work?
  - What does a "fulfilled work life" look like for me?
4. Write down a vision for your career that reflects your faith, calling, and values. This vision will serve as your compass, aligning your work with your purpose. It's not about reaching a destination, but about how each step in your career can reflect God's calling for you.

## 5. Create a Development Plan

- Once you have clarity, identify the gaps.
  - Do you need a new skill, certification, or degree?
  - Do you need to improve soft skills like communication or leadership?
6. God prepares those He calls, but He also expects stewardship. When you take action to develop the skills that align with your purpose, you're positioning yourself to fulfill that divine assignment.

## 7. Start Where You Are

- Don't wait for a new title or platform. Begin to live purposefully in your current role.
  - Align how you show up:
    - Add value intentionally.
    - Influence with integrity.
    - Serve with joy and faith.
8. *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.” Colossians 3:23 NIV.*

When you approach your work as an act of worship, each task becomes an opportunity to align your job with your purpose.

## 9. Stay Open to God's Nudges

- Alignment isn't a one-time event, it's an ongoing conversation with God. Stay sensitive to divine nudges.
- Sometimes alignment requires a courageous step of faith, like applying for a new job, starting a business, or changing industries.

10. **Alignment is not perfection**, it is an ongoing, progressive unfolding of God's will. You're not behind; you're in process, and each step you take brings you closer to your purpose.

## **Becoming Through Employment: The Inner Work Behind the Outer Work**

In the kingdom of God, work is not just about earning a living; it is also about becoming the person God designed you to be. A good employee is developed not just in the technical aspects of their job but in the values that shape their character. These values are not just part of the job; they are part of your transformation. When you approach your work with these guiding principles, you allow the work itself to become a tool for shaping your life.

## **Key Values to Develop in the Alignment Process:**

1. **Ownership:** The understanding that there is something your employment is working out in you as you are working on the job. This is a win-win situation. As you invest your time, energy, and effort into the work you do, it works on you, refining your character, sharpening your skills, and aligning you with your purpose. Embrace this journey, knowing that your work is molding you.
2. **Compliance with Integrity:** Upholding all tenets of your role and responsibilities with optimum compliance to the best of your ability is a priority if you want to evolve. Adhering to the structures, rules, and discipline of the workplace may feel like limitations at times, but they are in place to guide you toward growth. The system's structure and discipline are your plugs to becoming the best version of yourself.

**Sacrifice Above Convenience:** Giving more than what is convenient, especially when it requires personal sacrifice, is an essential value. It's easy to do the bare minimum, but excellence requires more. The kingdom standard calls us to go beyond what is easy and comfortable. Don't complain or badmouth

the system. Speak well of it, and represent it well. This is your rehearsal for a higher calling. Your dedication, especially in the unseen, builds character that stands the test of time.

These values remind us that work is not merely a task to be completed, but a process through which we evolve into the people God has created us to be. By adhering to these principles, we align our careers with our divine purpose and walk in excellence.

## **The Calling Beyond Titles**

When you realize that your work is not just a job but part of a larger divine assignment, your perspective shifts. Your work is no longer confined to a paycheck or a title. It becomes a platform for fulfilling God's purpose.

You don't need a pulpit to preach. Your life is the message. Your work ethic, integrity, and creativity speak louder than any sermon. This is where the marketplace ministers and intrapreneurs come in — those who serve within systems but carry a kingdom mandate. Your influence is not measured by your position; it's measured by your alignment with purpose.

*Better a little with the fear of the Lord than great wealth with turmoil. Proverbs 15:16 NIV.*

## Reflection Questions:

Take a quiet moment to ponder and journal your responses:

- What aspects of your current work feel aligned or misaligned with your faith and calling?
- In what ways have you been showing up in your job without purpose or intention?
- What vision do you sense God is revealing to you concerning your career?
- Are you resisting a shift God might be nudging you toward? Why or why not?
- What fears or limiting beliefs are keeping you from exploring or embracing alignment?

## Action Steps:

Move from reflection to action by taking these intentional steps:

1. **Complete a Career Alignment Audit:**  
List what energizes you and what drains you in your current work. Note where your gifts are in use and where they feel buried.
2. **Write Your Career Vision Statement:**  
Craft a one-paragraph vision that reflects the kind of work, impact, and values you desire to live out. Include faith elements and service intentions.

3. **Identify Three Growth Areas:**  
Pinpoint three specific areas (skills, mindset, habits, or connections) you need to develop or refine to align better with your calling.
4. **Take One Bold Step This Week:**  
This could be scheduling a conversation with a mentor, enrolling in a course, updating your résumé, or volunteering for a new task at work with fresh purpose.
5. **Create a Daily “Alignment Reminder”:**  
Choose a scripture, affirmation, or quote (like the chapter’s closing line) to remind you each morning of your purpose and alignment pursuit.

### **Faith Declaration**

I am not called to hustle through life aimlessly. God is aligning my gifts, passion, and assignment. I receive wisdom and clarity to walk in purpose, right where I am, and wherever He leads next.

### **Prayer**

Lord, thank You that my work matters to You. Help me discern where I am and where You’re taking me. Give me boldness to shift where needed, and the patience to trust Your process. I align my work, my heart, and my hands to Your purpose. Amen.

**Alignment is not about chasing a perfect job, but about becoming a purposeful vessel wherever you’re planted.**

# Chapter Six

## Navigating Setbacks with Purpose

### How to Turn Workplace Challenges into Growth and Direction

The day Amaka was let go from her job felt like the ground gave way beneath her. She had been giving her all, even mentoring younger staff, yet one company restructure erased years of loyalty. It wasn't just about the salary, it was about her sense of worth and identity.

But in that painful pause, Amaka discovered something deeper: she had been finding her value in what she did, not in who she was. What seemed like a setback became a reset. Within six months, she wasn't just employed again, she was empowered, starting a nonprofit that combined her career experience with her passion for helping women.

## **Setbacks Don't Cancel Purpose**

We often think purpose is only found in our successes, but God often sharpens us through our struggles. Setbacks can reveal:

Misalignment we didn't notice

Strengths we didn't realize

Paths we never considered

*“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28 NIV.*

The keyword here is all things, including failed interviews, difficult bosses, layoffs, and delayed promotions.

## **Common Setbacks, Purposeful Lessons**

### 1. Delayed Progress

Waiting can be frustrating, especially when others seem to be moving faster. But God uses delays to refine character and test motives.

**Lesson: Patience builds depth that shortcuts never give.**

### 2. Difficult Colleagues or Toxic Work Environments

These seasons stretch our emotional and spiritual muscles. They teach boundaries, discernment, and the power of walking in love and wisdom.

Lesson: Even in hard spaces, we can grow stronger without growing bitter.

### 3. Job Loss or Business Failure

This can shake confidence, but it also creates space for redirection.

Lesson: Your value is not tied to a role, God's purpose remains intact.

## **Responding With Purpose**

1. Pause and Process Don't rush past your emotions. Journal. Pray. Seek godly counsel.

### 2. Ask the Right Questions

What is this season trying to teach me?

What patterns or lessons keep repeating?

Am I being redirected?

3. Reframe, Don't Retreat Instead of spiraling into discouragement, ask: How can this work for my good?

4. Anchor in God's Word Let His promises steady your heart:

*"Though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the LORD upholds him with his hand." Psalm 37:24 NIV.*

### **Setbacks Shape Servants**

In scripture, Joseph's career went from favored son to prisoner, before he became Prime Minister. Yet every setback shaped the man he needed to become to fulfill God's assignment.

Your calling is not fragile. Even in seemingly setbacks God is writing a bigger story.

### **Reflection Questions**

Take time to reflect, journal, and sit with these questions:

- What recent setback has shaken your confidence or direction the most?
- How did you initially respond to that setback—emotionally, spiritually, and mentally?
- What lessons or strengths might God be trying to develop through this season?

- Have you been tying your identity too closely to your job, performance, or position?
- What scriptural truth from this chapter speaks most directly to your current situation?

### **Action Steps**

Turn your reflection into practical movement with these steps:

#### 1. Journal the Journey:

Write out your most recent or most painful career setback. Be honest about how it made you feel, and identify at least one possible redemptive lesson or insight you've gained from it.

#### 2. Create a Reframe Statement:

Choose one past disappointment and reframe it by completing this sentence: "That season taught me..." or "Because of that challenge, I now..."

#### 3. List Your Anchoring Scriptures:

Identify 2–3 Bible verses (such as Romans 8:28 or Psalm 37:24) that can serve as anchors during future storms. Keep them visible on your phone, desk, or mirror.

#### 4. Reach Out for Support:

Schedule a check-in with a mentor, coach, or trusted friend to talk through your current season. Ask for perspective and prayer, not just advice.

### 5. Take a Small Bold Step Forward:

Even in a hard place, choose one small action that moves you forward, write a proposal.

### **Faith Declaration**

I am not defined by delays or detours. Every setback is an opportunity for growth, redirection, and refinement. God is with me, and His purpose still stands.

### **Prayer**

Father, when things don't go as planned, help me remember that You're still in control. Teach me the lessons in my low seasons. Strengthen me to keep moving forward with faith and courage. I trust that You're working all things for my good. Amen.

**A purposeful life is not setback-free. It is faith-filled and forward-focused, even when the path feels unclear.**

# Chapter 7

## Faith, Values, and Professional Integrity in the Workplace

### Bringing Your Faith and Values into Your Career Without Compromise

The day Sarah stood in front of her team, trying to convince them that the project they were about to start was the right thing to do, she knew it was important to the company's bottom line, but something didn't sit well with her. The approach they were taking didn't align with her personal values. She felt a tug on her heart, urging her to speak up.

Sarah had always believed that her faith was central to her identity, and she couldn't leave it at the door when she walked into her office. But as she looked at the faces around her, she felt the tension between staying silent for the sake of fitting in or speaking up, risking her job. Her faith was too important to ignore, so Sarah made a decision that day: she would find a way to honor both her professional responsibilities and her personal convictions.

With prayer and guidance, Sarah approached her manager, expressing her concerns and proposing an alternative plan that aligned better with her values. She was nervous, but to her surprise, her honesty was respected, and the company adopted her approach. Sarah realized that when she aligned her faith with her work, she wasn't just contributing to a project; she was contributing to something bigger than herself.

## **The Power of Integrity in the Workplace**

Integrity is the backbone of a purpose-driven career. It's the choice to do the right thing, even when no one is watching, and especially when it's inconvenient. Whether in business, healthcare, education, or any profession, integrity is what makes you stand out as a leader who leads with character, not just competency.

Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out.  
Proverbs 10:9 NIV

Integrity in the workplace means doing the right thing, even when no one is looking. It's the commitment to stay true to your principles and to treat others with dignity and respect, even when it's difficult. Integrity builds trust, and trust builds effective and lasting relationships with colleagues, clients, and supervisors.

## **Why Faith and Values Matter at Work**

When your career and calling are aligned, your faith and values should guide your decisions. Integrating them into your professional life doesn't mean preaching at work or being religiously overt; it means living out principles of honesty, kindness, justice, and fairness.

### **1. Faith in Action**

Living your faith in the workplace means showing up with integrity, doing what you say, being honest even when it's difficult, and treating others with respect and dignity.

*Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.  
Matthew 5:16 NIV*

### **2. Staying True to Your Values**

Your values influence the way you engage in your work. From your work ethic to your treatment of others, your actions should reflect what you believe. This doesn't mean you have to be perfect, but it does mean you're committed to doing things with honor and respect.

### **3. Navigating Ethical Dilemmas**

There will be times when your faith and values will challenge the status quo. You might face ethical dilemmas, like being asked to cover up mistakes, compromise on quality, or turn a blind eye to injustice. This is where the courage to stand for your values will determine your influence.

#### **Building Meaningful Relationships with Integrity and Grace**

Workplace relationships have the potential to shape your professional environment and contribute to your personal growth. In a space where everyone has their own agenda and desires, it is easy to compromise your values to get ahead or be accepted. But God calls us to a higher standard in how we engage with others.

*Make your light shine, so others will see the good you do and will praise your Father in heaven.  
Matthew 5:16 CEV*

As you integrate your faith into your professional life, remember that relationships are at the heart of the workplace. A meaningful connection with colleagues is built on trust, mutual respect, and authenticity.

If you make an effort to cultivate relationships founded on integrity, you not only create a healthy

environment for your professional growth, but you also become a positive influence on others.

## **Grace Under Pressure**

Workplace dynamics can often be stressful, and you may find yourself in challenging situations with your coworkers or supervisors. Maintaining grace under pressure is a reflection of your faith. Grace allows you to handle criticism with dignity, respond to challenging situations without resentment, and extend forgiveness when necessary.

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23 NIV*

## **Practical Steps for Navigating Relationships with Integrity**

### **1. Be a Listening Ear**

Good relationships begin with a foundation of empathy and understanding. Take the time to listen to your colleagues, understanding their perspectives and offering support where you can. Your willingness to listen is a key part of building trust and respect.

## **2. Avoid Gossip and Negative Talk**

Gossip can tear down a team and disrupt the harmony in the workplace. Keep your conversations focused on solutions, and avoid engaging in gossip or speaking negatively about colleagues or management.

## **3. Forgive and Let Go**

In any environment, conflicts will arise. But as a person of faith, it's important to forgive and move forward. Holding grudges or harboring resentment will only poison relationships and hinder your personal growth. Practice the art of reconciliation and seek peace wherever possible.

## **4. Offer Encouragement**

In a competitive work environment, it's easy for people to focus on individual success. However, offering genuine encouragement and acknowledging the accomplishments of others will help to build unity and support within the team.

## **How to Integrate Faith and Values in the Workplace**

### **1. Know Your Core Values**

Before integrating your faith and values into your career, you need to know what your core values are.

Do you believe in fairness, honesty, respect, and compassion? If you haven't already, take time to identify your non-negotiable values. These are the principles that will guide you in difficult moments.

## **2. Be Consistent**

Integrity doesn't change with the context. Whether in a meeting, in a one-on-one, or in a big presentation, let your values be consistent. Don't compartmentalize your faith. When you are authentic and consistent, others will notice and respect your character.

## **3. Speak Up When Necessary**

Sometimes, standing up for your values means speaking up. It may not be easy, but it's necessary. Whether it's a suggestion that compromises your integrity or an unethical behavior, it's important to voice your concerns in a respectful and constructive way.

## **4. Serve with Excellence**

Your commitment to your values doesn't mean you should slack off in your work. Excellence is a powerful testimony of your faith. In everything you do, aim to provide high-quality work and contribute positively to the organization's mission.

## Reflection Questions

**1. Personal Integrity:** How do I currently define integrity in my professional life? Are there areas where I feel my integrity has been compromised?

**2. Faith in Action:** How can I better demonstrate my faith through my work without being overt? What are some practical ways I can integrate honesty, kindness, and fairness into my daily interactions at work?

**3. Ethical Dilemmas:** Think of a recent situation where I faced an ethical dilemma at work. How did I respond, and how would my faith have guided my actions if I had been more intentional about integrating my values?

**4. Workplace Relationships:** Do I treat my colleagues and supervisors with respect and fairness? How can I improve my professional relationships by applying the principles of grace and forgiveness?

**5. Living Your Faith:** When I face pressure or stressful situations at work, how do I respond? How can I make my response more aligned with the peace and grace that comes from my faith?

## Action Steps

**1. Identify Core Values:** Take time today to write down your top five core values. Reflect on how these values can be applied to your professional life. Make a commitment to align your actions with these values moving forward.

**2. Practice Integrity:** In the next week, intentionally practice integrity in your work. Whether it's handling a difficult situation or interacting with a colleague, choose to do the right thing even when it's inconvenient.

**3. Speak Up:** If you encounter a situation at work where you need to stand up for what is right, commit to speaking up in a constructive and respectful manner. Identify one specific situation where you can apply this step in the next few days.

**4. Serve with Excellence:** Set a goal for the week to give your best effort in everything you do at work. No task is too small to offer excellence, and this will not only honor your values but will also serve as a testimony to others of your commitment to faith in action.

**5. Reconcile a Relationship:** If you've had a conflict with a colleague or supervisor, take action to offer reconciliation. Whether through an apology or an act of kindness, seek to restore peace in a relationship at work.

## **Declaration**

I choose to integrate my faith and values into every area of my work. I will live with integrity, ensuring my actions reflect who I am in Christ. No matter the challenge, I will stand firm in my values, trusting that God will honor my commitment.

## **Prayer**

Father, thank You for the opportunity to bring Your light into my workplace. Help me honor You with my work, my words, and my actions. Give me the courage to uphold my values and the wisdom to navigate situations where my faith is tested. May I always walk in integrity, reflecting Your love and justice. Amen.

**Integrity is doing the right thing even when no one is watching, and in doing so, your work becomes a testimony to your faith.**

# Chapter Eight

## Fueling Growth: Mentorship, Learning, and Stretching

### Empowering Yourself Through Intentional Growth and Wise Counsel

David had always been the kind of person who believed in self-sufficiency. He prided himself on being independent, solving problems on his own, and tackling challenges without seeking help.

However, as he progressed in his career, he began to feel the weight of his responsibilities. The more he achieved, the more he realized that he had reached the limits of his knowledge and skills. Something was missing, growth.

One evening, after a long day at work, David had a conversation with his mentor, Mr. Olatunde, who had been a guiding figure in his life for years.

Mr. Olatunde, with his wealth of experience, shared a powerful piece of advice: “David, growth is a journey that requires constant learning and

stretching. It's not enough to be good at what you do; you must always strive to be better and seek wisdom from others who have walked this path before you."

David reflected on this and realized that while he had excelled in many areas, he had been doing so without a support system—without mentorship, without actively seeking growth opportunities, and without challenging himself beyond his comfort zone.

## **The Power of Mentorship**

Mentorship is one of the most powerful tools for growth. It's not about having someone who tells you what to do, it's about having a wise, trusted individual who walks with you, challenges you, and helps you see things from a different perspective.

Mentorship can be the catalyst that propels you toward greater success, deeper wisdom, and higher levels of impact in your career.

*As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. Proverbs 27:17 NIV.*

This verse emphasizes the importance of relationships that challenge us to be better. A good mentor doesn't simply tell you what you want to hear, they help you see your blind spots and encourage you to push beyond your limits.

They guide you not just through practical steps but through the development of character and wisdom.

## **Lifelong Learning: A Commitment to Growth**

One of the most important steps in aligning your career with your calling is committing to lifelong learning. Growth doesn't stop once you land your first job or reach a certain level in your career. Continuous learning is key to staying aligned with your purpose.

### **1. Read Widely**

Books, articles, and industry journals are treasure troves of wisdom. The more you read, the more you expand your knowledge, stay updated on trends, and improve your thinking. Leaders are readers, and every successful person has made learning a core part of their lives.

### **2. Attend Workshops and Seminars**

While reading is powerful, there's something special about attending workshops and seminars. These opportunities allow you to interact with experts, learn in real-time, and network with like-minded individuals who are also on the journey of growth. They provide a space for you to stretch beyond your comfort zone.

### **3. Embrace Feedback**

Feedback is often uncomfortable, but it's essential for growth. Whether from a mentor, a colleague, or a supervisor, feedback can help you identify areas for improvement. Instead of being defensive, approach feedback with a growth mindset, seeing it as an opportunity to become better.

### **Stretching Yourself: Pushing Past Comfort Zones**

Growth requires stretching, stepping beyond what you already know and can do. It's easy to stay in your comfort zone, but if you want to align your career with your calling, you must be willing to step out and take risks.

This may mean volunteering for new projects, taking on leadership roles, or pursuing certifications and qualifications that challenge you.

### **1. Take on Challenging Projects**

When you're given a difficult task or project, don't shy away from it. Instead, see it as an opportunity to grow. Ask questions, seek advice, and commit to giving your best effort. These projects will stretch your skills and expand your abilities, helping you move closer to your calling.

## **2. Try Something New**

If you've been in the same role for years, it might be time to step into something new. Seek opportunities for growth within your organization or industry. Maybe it's learning a new software program, mastering a new skill set, or switching to a different department. By trying something new, you'll not only expand your capabilities but also keep your work fresh and exciting.

## **3. Challenge Your Mindset**

Your mindset plays a huge role in your growth. Are you open to learning? Do you believe that you can develop new skills? Cultivating a mindset that embraces challenge, change, and growth will help you overcome obstacles and pursue continuous improvement.

### **Reflection Questions**

Set aside quiet time to reflect and journal your answers:

- Have I intentionally sought mentorship in my career or calling journey? Why or why not?
- What's the last thing I intentionally learned that stretched me professionally or personally?
- In what ways have I been playing it safe or avoiding growth opportunities?

- How do I typically respond to feedback, defensively or with a growth mindset?
- What would aligning my growth with my purpose practically look like in this season?

## **Action Steps**

Take these steps to fuel your growth intentionally:

### **1. Identify a Growth Mentor**

Write down the names of 2–3 people you admire for their wisdom or experience. Reach out to one this week to start a mentoring conversation or ask for a learning session.

### **2. Make a Learning List**

List five new things (books, skills, courses, or areas of knowledge) you'd like to explore within the next 90 days. Choose one to start this week.

### **3. Create a “Stretch Goal”**

Set a goal that feels slightly outside your comfort zone, whether it's leading a meeting, starting a blog, taking on a speaking role, or proposing a new idea at work.

### **4. Ask for Feedback**

Choose one trusted person (a mentor, boss, or peer) and ask them: “What's one area I could grow in professionally or personally?” Listen openly and thank them for their insight.

## **5. Join a Growth Circle**

Look for a community online or in person where you can learn with others, like a professional association, study group, or mastermind team. Growth accelerates in community.

## **Faith Declaration**

I commit to fueling my growth every day. I will seek mentorship, embrace learning opportunities, and push beyond my comfort zone to become the best version of myself. I trust that as I grow in wisdom and skill, I will be more aligned with my calling and purpose.

## **Prayer**

Father, thank You for the gift of growth. I commit to learning, stretching, and seeking wisdom from those who have gone before me. Help me to be open to feedback, to step out of my comfort zone, and to trust that every challenge I face is an opportunity to grow. May my growth be a reflection of Your purpose in my life, and may I use what I learn to make a greater impact. Amen.

**Growth is never comfortable, but it's always worth it. To align your career with your calling, you must be willing to stretch beyond where you are today.**

# Chapter Nine

## Empowered for Impact

### **Living Beyond the Office—How Your Career Serves a Larger Purpose**

Sonia had always been a dedicated worker. From early mornings to late nights, she poured her energy into her job, aiming for the next promotion, the next accolade.

She believed that success meant climbing the corporate ladder and accumulating achievements. However, over time, a deep sense of dissatisfaction began to creep in.

Despite her career successes, something felt incomplete. It wasn't until one evening, while sitting quietly in her apartment, that the answer came.

Sonia realized that her career had become a vehicle not just for personal gain but for something greater, impact. It wasn't enough to just work hard; she needed to work with purpose. Her career was her platform for influence, a means to make a positive difference in the world around her.

That night, Sonia made a commitment: she would approach her work with the mindset of empowerment, understanding that her role could serve a much larger purpose.

She started focusing on the ways she could make an impact not just within her job, but in the lives of her colleagues, clients, and community. Slowly, her entire perspective shifted. Sonia no longer worked just for herself; she worked for others.

### **Your Career is Your Platform for Impact**

In today's world, it's easy to get caught up in the pursuit of personal success, higher pay, better titles, and more recognition. While these things aren't inherently bad, they are incomplete when viewed through the lens of a purpose-driven career.

The truth is, your career can be much more than a means to an end; it can be a platform for making a meaningful impact in the lives of others.

Jesus Himself demonstrated this principle through His work on earth. He didn't seek positions of power for self-glorification.

Instead, He used His influence to serve others, heal the sick, and change lives. As followers of Christ, we are called to do the same, to be a light wherever we are (Matthew 5:14-16).

## **The Role of Impact in Aligning Your Career with Your Calling**

Aligning your career with your calling is about more than just finding fulfillment; it's about recognizing that your work is part of a larger story. When you approach your job with a mindset of service and impact, it becomes a vehicle for transforming not just your life, but the lives of others.

### **1. Influence Through Service**

As you begin to align your career with your calling, your focus shifts from self-centered ambition to service. How can you serve your colleagues, clients, and community? How can you make a difference in someone's life through your work?

Service is the foundation of true impact. Whether you're in a leadership position or just starting out, service gives you a sense of purpose that goes beyond monetary gain. It allows you to use your gifts, talents, and time to make a difference, bringing meaning to your daily tasks.

### **2. Creating Opportunities for Others**

Empowered individuals empower others. Your career should not only be about your success but about helping others along their journey as well. Use your position to create opportunities for those who are less experienced, offer mentorship to those who

need guidance, and advocate for those who might not have a voice. The true measure of your success is how many people you lift up along the way.

### **3. Impacting the World Beyond the Workplace**

Your impact isn't limited to what you do in your job. The influence you carry with you at work should extend into your home, community, and even the broader world. Whether it's through volunteering, contributing to charitable causes, or simply living out your values, you have the power to make a difference beyond your job description.

In Micah 6:8, God reminds us of the kind of impact we are called to make: "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8 NIV. This verse emphasizes that the impact we make should be rooted in justice, mercy, and humility.

### **Living a Life of Empowerment**

To live a life of empowerment means using the power you've been given to positively influence the world. This is true whether you're in a high-powered corporate job or a service-oriented position. Your career is your platform, and how you use it will determine the lasting impact you have.

Empowered living begins with the recognition that your work is part of God's bigger plan for your life. It's not just about what you do, it's about why you do it and how you allow your career to align with your purpose and calling.

## **1. Work as Worship**

When you view your career as a calling rather than just a job, it becomes an act of worship. You are no longer working for the approval of your boss or the praise of your colleagues. You are working for the greater glory of God, understanding that your role in the workplace is part of His greater purpose for your life.

Colossians 3:23 says, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters." Colossians 3:23 NIV.

## **2. Leaving a Legacy of Impact**

As you approach your career with a sense of empowerment, you begin to think about the legacy you will leave. What will people remember about your time in the workplace? Will it be your achievements, or will it be the lives you impacted? An empowered career isn't just about what you accomplish; it's about the lives you change along the way.

## Reflection Questions

- 1. What does “impact” mean to you personally?**  
In what ways do you feel your current career is already making an impact?
- 2. Have you ever felt like Sonia, successful on the outside but unfulfilled within?**  
What was missing, and how did you respond?
- 3. Who has been positively influenced by your work so far?**  
How did that experience make you feel?
- 4. How do you typically measure success in your career?**  
How can you begin to redefine success through the lens of service and legacy?
- 5. What opportunities exist in your current role to empower or uplift others?**  
Are there untapped moments where you could add value or mentor someone?
- 6. Are there values you need to revisit or realign to ensure your career aligns with your calling?**  
How can you practically do that?

**7. What fears or limiting beliefs have kept you from seeing your career as a platform for impact?**

How can you overcome them with faith?

**8. In what ways do you serve your community or live out your faith beyond your workplace?**

Could you extend your influence in new ways?

## **Action Steps**

### **• Audit Your Impact**

Write down three ways your work currently benefits others. Then, identify three new areas where you could be more intentional about creating impact.

### **• Identify a Mentorship Opportunity**

Choose one colleague, intern, or junior staff member you can encourage, support, or mentor this month.

### **• Start a “Purpose Journal”**

For the next 30 days, reflect each evening on how your work aligned with your values and served a greater purpose.

### **• Volunteer Your Expertise**

Offer your skills to a nonprofit, church, or community group that could benefit from your knowledge.

- **Speak Life at Work**

Commit to encouraging one person at work each day with words of affirmation, prayer, or practical support.

- **Revisit Your Career Goals**

Prayerfully review your goals to ensure they include not only personal advancement but also impact, service, and legacy.

- **Affirm Daily Empowerment**

Use the declaration from this chapter each morning as a reminder of why you do what you do.

### **Declaration**

I choose to live a life of empowerment. My career is not just about me; it is a platform to make a lasting impact on those around me. I commit to serving others, creating opportunities for growth, and using my position to bring about positive change. I will work with purpose, knowing that every task, no matter how small, is part of a greater calling.

## **Prayer**

Father, thank You for the opportunity to impact the world through my work. Help me to use my career as a platform for good—serving others, creating opportunities for growth, and making a lasting difference. May my work bring glory to You and positively influence those around me. Teach me to work with purpose, to lead with love, and to always remember that my career is part of Your bigger plan for my life. Amen.

**A career aligned with purpose isn't just about climbing the ladder, it's about using your platform to lift others as you rise.**

# Chapter Ten

## Sustaining the Journey

### **Staying Aligned Through Seasons, Transitions, and Growth Phases**

After years of working in the corporate world, Daniel was at a crossroads. He had been on a mission to align his career with his purpose for some time, but he noticed something troubling: the initial excitement was beginning to fade.

The passion he once felt for his work seemed to be waning. It wasn't that he had lost sight of his purpose, but rather, the challenges of the job, combined with the pressures of life, had started to weigh heavily on him.

One afternoon, Daniel found himself in a meeting room, reflecting on his journey. He thought about the high points, those early days when he first recognized the alignment between his career and calling.

He had seen tangible results from his purposeful work, and that had fueled his energy. But now, there were days when fatigue set in.

How could he keep this going for the long term? How could he continue to stay aligned and empowered through the inevitable seasons of change, difficulty, and transition?

In that moment, Daniel realized something important: Sustaining the journey required more than just passion, it required perseverance, patience, and a renewed commitment to the purpose behind his work.

He didn't need to force the energy back; instead, he needed to allow himself the space to rest, recalibrate, and trust that God was with him in every season.

## **The Power of Perseverance in Aligning Your Career**

Sustaining your journey of purpose alignment doesn't mean that you'll always feel energized and driven.

There will be seasons, some of them quiet, others full of challenges, that may cause you to question whether you are still on the right path. But these seasons are part of the journey.

They are opportunities for you to grow, develop, and strengthen your resolve to remain aligned with your calling.

James 1:2-4 reminds us that;

*The testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. James 1:2-4 NIV.*

This perseverance is not about pushing through for the sake of achievement; it's about being refined through trials and challenges so that we emerge more equipped for the work God has for us.

## **1. Recognizing the Seasons**

Life has seasons, and so does your career. There will be times of growth, excitement, and progress, followed by quieter, more challenging periods where the work seems less rewarding. During these times, it's easy to become discouraged or doubt your purpose. But the truth is, every season serves a purpose in your journey.

*There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." Ecclesiastes 3:1 NIV.*

This truth helps us to understand that seasons of growth, rest, and transition are all part of the plan. The key is to recognize each season for what it is, trusting that even in the most difficult moments, God is using them for our growth and development.

## **2. Embracing Transitions**

A big part of sustaining the journey is navigating transitions. As your career grows and changes, so will your role and responsibilities. Transitions are a natural part of any purpose-driven career. However, they often come with discomfort, uncertainty, and challenges that can tempt you to abandon your alignment.

Instead of resisting transitions, learn to embrace them. Trust that each transition is an opportunity to stretch your abilities, broaden your influence, and deepen your purpose. Even when the transition is difficult, you can take comfort in the knowledge that God is leading you, and that He will provide the wisdom and strength you need.

*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” Isaiah 43:19 NIV.*

This is a reminder that God is always at work, even in the midst of transitions. He is doing a new thing in your career and will guide you through every change.

## **3. Finding Rest and Renewal**

Sustaining the journey also requires periods of rest and renewal. It's easy to burn out when you are constantly pushing yourself without taking time to

recharge. Just as the body needs physical rest to remain healthy, your soul and spirit also need rest to sustain your sense of purpose.

Jesus modeled this principle in Mark 6:31 when He said to His disciples,

*Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.” Mark 6:31 NIV.*

Even Jesus, in His busiest moments, understood the importance of rest. Rest doesn't mean quitting; it means recognizing the need for renewal so that you can continue to operate at your best and stay aligned with your calling.

#### **4. Revisiting Your Why**

As you continue your journey, it's important to occasionally revisit your why, the purpose behind your work. Sometimes, the routine of everyday responsibilities can cloud your sense of purpose. When this happens, take time to reflect on the vision and calling that first inspired you to pursue this path.

In moments of weariness or doubt, remind yourself of the bigger picture. Your work is about more than just achieving success; it's about making an eternal impact. Reconnecting with your core values and goals will reignite the fire of purpose and help you move forward with fresh energy.

## **Living in Alignment Through Seasons of Change**

As you grow in your career, you will encounter seasons of transition, challenge, and growth. It is through these seasons that your alignment with your calling will be tested. But remember, staying aligned is not about avoiding difficult seasons; it's about trusting God's guidance through every phase.

God is faithful to walk with you in every season, whether it's one of success or difficulty. He promises to give you the strength to persevere and the wisdom to navigate any transition that comes your way. Your journey of purpose alignment will not always be easy, but it will always be worth it.

### **Reflection Questions**

Pause and reflect deeply. Let your responses be a conversation between your heart and your assignment.

- What internal signs show that I may need rest, renewal, or a reset in this season?
- How have I handled recent transitions, gracefully, grudgingly, or with growth?
- What specific distractions or pressures have been pulling me away from alignment lately?
- Do I still feel connected to my "why," or has routine blurred the clarity of my purpose?

- What does perseverance look like for me right now—and am I embracing it with joy or just enduring it?

### Action Steps

Take intentional steps that re-anchor you in purpose and power.

- Block out one intentional hour this week for soul alignment—silence, reflection, and realignment.
- Write out your current season in one sentence. Then write a declaration of how you choose to respond to it.
- Revisit a journal entry, a prophetic word, or a vision board that once stirred your spirit. Let it speak again.
- Choose one scripture from this chapter and turn it into a personal affirmation or daily meditation.
- Reach out to a trusted friend, coach, or spiritual mentor to share where you are, and allow them to speak life over your journey.

### Declaration

I commit to staying aligned with my purpose through all seasons. I trust that God is guiding me in every transition and challenge, and I embrace the growth that comes with each season. I will take time to rest, renew, and revisit my why, so that I can continue to work with purpose and live a life of impact.

## **Prayer**

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of purpose and the opportunity to align my career with Your will. Help me to stay committed to my calling through all seasons of life. When challenges arise, give me the strength to persevere. When I face transitions, help me to embrace them with faith and trust in Your plan. Renew my spirit and remind me of my purpose, so I can continue to live with impact. In Jesus' name, Amen.

"The journey of aligning your career with your calling is not a sprint, but a marathon. Embrace the seasons, trust the transitions, and sustain your focus on the greater purpose." – Bimbo Ilori

# Chapter Eleven

## From Career to Calling: Your Next Steps

### **A Practical Roadmap for Continuing the Alignment Journey**

In his early years of employment, Yemy worked in a large corporation, where he excelled in his role but felt a constant tension between his work and his passion.

Every day, he left the office with a sense of unfulfillment, knowing that he was not fully walking in his true calling.

One day, he came across a quote that changed everything: “Your career is not just a job; it’s a pathway to your calling.” This simple statement awakened something in him, and Yemy realized that his career could be more than a paycheck, it could be the vehicle through which he lived out his calling.

The journey from career to calling is a continuum, not a single destination. It's the realization that your daily work can align with your life's purpose, and it requires intentional steps, growth, and ongoing adjustment.

Yemy's story is one of transformation, taking that spark of understanding and transforming it into actionable steps that not only impacted his career but also left a profound legacy in the lives of others.

This chapter will provide you with a practical roadmap for continuing your journey from career to calling. The steps laid out here are not about achieving perfection but about continuing the process of alignment, allowing you to grow in your purpose, and to make your work meaningful on a daily basis.

## **Step 1: Clarify Your Core Values and Vision**

The first step in continuing your alignment journey is to make sure you are still clear about your core values and the vision for your life. Without these guiding principles, it's easy to drift off course.

Yemy spent a day reflecting on the values that mattered most to him. He realized that his values included integrity, service to others, and personal growth.

Once these were clear, Yemy was able to assess his current work in light of his values. Were they aligned with his values, or did his current career demand compromises? This clarity allowed him to navigate his career with purpose and confidence.

Proverbs 4:25-27 says,

*“Let your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you. Give careful thought to the paths for your feet and be steadfast in all your ways. Do not turn to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil.” Proverbs 4:25-27 NIV.*

This scripture reminds us to stay focused on our true calling and to make intentional choices based on our values and vision.

## **Step 2: Embrace Change and Opportunities for Growth**

As you continue aligning your career with your calling, be open to change. Change often brings new opportunities for growth, and embracing it can lead to greater alignment and impact.

Yemy’s path was not linear. At times, he had to pivot, move to different roles, or take on challenges that seemed outside his comfort zone. Each change helped him develop a new skill set that brought him closer to his calling.

He learned that embracing new opportunities, whether in his current role or a new position, could be a stepping stone to further fulfillment.

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV.*

Every step you take toward aligning your career with your calling is a new creation, a fresh beginning. Be open to change and view it as a part of your spiritual and professional journey.

### **Step 3: Cultivate a Growth Mindset**

A growth mindset is the belief that your abilities and intelligence can be developed over time. It's essential for staying aligned with your calling, especially when faced with obstacles or periods of stagnation. When you embrace learning, setbacks become opportunities for growth, not signs of failure.

Yemy adopted a mindset of continual learning, seeking opportunities to mentor under those who had gone ahead of him and investing in his personal development. Whether it was reading a new book, attending seminars, or seeking feedback from others, Yemy understood that his professional growth was directly linked to his alignment with his calling.

*Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is his good, pleasing and perfect will." Romans 12:2 NIV.*

By cultivating a growth mindset, we open ourselves to transformation and become more aligned with God's will for our lives.

#### **Step 4: Take Consistent Action**

Alignment requires consistent action. It's easy to get excited about the idea of purpose-driven work, but without action, the dream remains a concept rather than a reality. Yemy understood that his career wouldn't magically align with his calling overnight. He had to take intentional, consistent steps every day.

Taking action includes both small and big steps. Whether it's offering a new idea at work, volunteering for a project that aligns with your passion, or seeking new job opportunities that reflect your values, the key is to keep moving forward in alignment with your calling.

*Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9 NIV.*

Your consistent actions toward aligning your career with your calling will yield results in due time. Keep pressing on!

## **Step 5: Build a Support System**

No one can do this journey alone. A support system of mentors, coaches, or like-minded individuals is crucial to sustaining the journey. Yemy found great encouragement and accountability in a small group of people who shared his vision for aligning work with purpose.

Surround yourself with those who can speak into your life, who share your values, and who will challenge you to grow. A strong support system will help you persevere through the difficult times and keep you focused on the larger vision.

*Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 NIV.*

Surround yourself with those who will lift you up and encourage you in your journey of aligning your career with your calling.

## **Step 6: Make an Impact Beyond the Workplace**

Aligning your career with your calling is not just about personal fulfillment—it's also about the impact you can make. As you walk out your purpose, you have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others.

Yemy realized that his calling wasn't limited to his work hours. He began to mentor others, encourage his colleagues, and get involved in initiatives that aligned with his values. By doing so, he was able to make a lasting impact both inside and outside the workplace.

Matthew 5:14-16 calls us to be a light to the world,

*“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.” Matthew 5:14-16 NIV.*

As you align your career with your calling, remember that your influence can extend beyond the walls of your workplace and into the wider world.

### **Reflection Questions**

Pause and evaluate your journey honestly. These questions are meant to spark clarity, courage, and course correction where needed.

- In what ways does my current career align or misalign with my core values and calling?
- Have I been resisting change or welcoming it as a growth opportunity?
- What mindset has dominated my professional life lately: fixed or growth oriented?
- What intentional steps have I taken in the last 30 days toward alignment with my calling?
- Who are the voices and influences in my life, are they fueling or frustrating my forward motion?
- Where am I already making an impact, and how can I expand that beyond my workplace?

### **Action Steps**

Let your next move be led by clarity, not confusion. Purpose is pursued one bold step at a time.

- Write out your top five core values and assess if your current job environment honors them
- Identify one area where you need to embrace change and take one step toward it this week
- Invest in growth: commit to reading one book, taking a course, or attending a seminar that aligns with your calling
- Take one bold action that reflects your calling—start a side project, pitch an idea, volunteer, or mentor someone
- Schedule a call or meeting with a mentor or coach to get perspective and encouragement
- Commit to one way you will serve or lead beyond your job description this month. Let your light shine

## **Declaration**

I am committed to taking practical steps to continue aligning my career with my calling. I will clarify my core values, embrace change, cultivate a growth mindset, take consistent action, build a support system, and make an impact. My career is more than just a job, it is a calling, and I will continue to live in alignment with it.

## **Prayer**

Father, thank You for the journey You have led me on and for showing me how my career can align with my calling. I pray for clarity in every decision I make, for strength to embrace change, and for courage to take consistent steps forward. Help me to stay true to my core values and vision, and surround me with people who will encourage me in my purpose. May my work be a reflection of Your goodness and a light to those around me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

**The journey from career to calling is not a one-time event, but a continual process of intentional action, growth, and alignment with purpose.**

# Conclusion

## Empowered to Live Your Calling

As we close this journey of aligning your career with your calling, it's important to recognize that this is not the end but the beginning of a transformative process. The steps, principles, and insights shared throughout this book are designed to guide you toward a life where work is no longer just a means to an end, but a powerful platform for fulfilling your God-given purpose.

The road to alignment is one that requires intentionality, growth, and perseverance. It's about finding the deeper meaning in your work, trusting that every role you undertake, no matter how large or small is a stepping stone toward the grander purpose God has placed on your life. When you align your career with your calling, you not only find greater fulfillment but also contribute to the betterment of those around you, creating a ripple effect of empowerment, purpose, and change.

The transition from career to calling is not always easy. It may come with setbacks, challenges, and

moments of doubt, but these are the very moments that shape you. As you move forward, remember that your career is an ongoing journey, one that requires constant reflection, adjustment, and growth. Stay rooted in your values, embrace opportunities for growth, and consistently take action toward living out your calling.

The world is waiting for you to step into your purpose with confidence, knowing that you were uniquely crafted for this work. You have been empowered to make a difference, both in your own life and in the lives of those you encounter. As you continue to align your career with your calling, trust that God will guide your steps, empower your efforts, and open doors you never imagined.

Remember, empowerment comes not from external validation but from the realization that you are aligned with your true purpose. When you walk in this alignment, you carry the power of fulfillment, passion, and impact that resonates with the deepest parts of your being.

I encourage you to stay committed to your journey, even in the face of challenges. Keep refining your path, seeking opportunities to grow, and using your gifts to serve others. You are more than an employee; you are a carrier of purpose, an intrapreneur, a change-maker, and an ambassador of light in the workplace.

Your calling is already inside you, and now it's time to let it unfold and make its mark in the world.

### **Prayer**

Lord, thank You for the unique calling You've placed on my life. I thank You for the wisdom and guidance You've given me through this book. Help me continue to walk in alignment with my purpose. May my career always reflect Your will for me, and may I be a vessel for change, impact, and empowerment. Grant me strength to persevere through challenges and wisdom to make the right choices. In Jesus' name, Amen.

### **Empowered Declaration**

I declare that I am empowered to live out my calling. My career is aligned with my purpose, and I will take intentional steps to walk in my true calling every day. I trust in God's guidance and the power He has given me to make a lasting impact.

Go forth with boldness and confidence, knowing that your work has eternal significance. Keep pressing on, you are truly empowered.

## **It's a wrap**

I always round up my books by giving opportunities to readers to make a life-transforming decision, which I did some decades back, and has helped me this far, by simply taking the prayers below;

### **Prayer for Salvation and Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

Heavenly Father, I come to you in the name of Jesus. Your word says, "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 2:21). I am calling on You. I pray and ask Jesus to come into my heart and be the Lord over my life according to (Romans 10: 9-10): "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart, man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth, confession is made unto salvation". I do that now. I confess that Jesus is the LORD, and I believe in my heart that God raised Him from the dead.

I am now reborn! I am a Christian—a child of Almighty God! I am saved! You also said in your word;

(Luke 11:13) - If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall [your] heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him? Therefore, I ask you to fill me with the Holy Spirit.

I believe I shall forthwith, speak in new tongues, according to your word in;  
(Acts 2:4) And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. Begin to praise God for filling you with the Holy Spirit. Speak those words and syllables you receive not in your language but in the language that was given to you by the Holy Spirit. You have to use your voice. God will not force you to speak; don't be concerned with how it sounds; it is a heavenly language. Continue with the blessings God has given you and pray in the spirit every day.

You are a born-again, Spirit-filled believer. You will never be the same.

Find a good Church that boldly preaches God's Word and obeys it. Become part of a church family who will love and care for you, as you love and care for them.

We need to be connected. It increases our strength in God, and it is God's plan for us.

Make it a habit to communicate with God daily, through prayers, and read your bible to grow.

You are most welcome to contact us via our contact details provided.

Congratulations!

## Contact

You can contact the author via email at  
savedforeal19@gmail.com  
Or follow her outreach platforms on;

### **Savedforeal on Facebook**

[https://www.facebook.com/share/BbYx9fg3M1BXpsS2/?mibextid=qi2Omg/saved4real\\_](https://www.facebook.com/share/BbYx9fg3M1BXpsS2/?mibextid=qi2Omg/saved4real_)

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### **S4R podcast on Spotify**

<https://open.spotify.com/show/7iwYHW0a9gsFQeNRIQOEhR>

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<https://selar.co/m/abimbola-ilori1>

<https://paystack.shop/bimboiloribooks>

### **Profiles**

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/bimbo-ilorii>

<https://bimboilori.com/>

### **Call/Message**

<https://wa.me/2349028763627>

**Call-** +234 09028763627

## References

### Books

1. "The Purpose Driven Life" by Rick Warren  
Explores the concept of living with purpose, which aligns with the theme of finding one's calling in Empowered.

2. "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People" by Stephen R. Covey

A classic on personal development that emphasizes principles like integrity, vision, and intentionality, all key components of the Empowered mindset.

3. "Start with Why" by Simon Sinek  
Explores how understanding your purpose (the "why") behind what you do leads to greater fulfillment and success, supporting the book's concept of purpose-aligned work.

4. "The Power of Purpose" by Richard J. Leider  
Focuses on how understanding and aligning with one's purpose leads to success and fulfillment, aligning with the book's core messages.

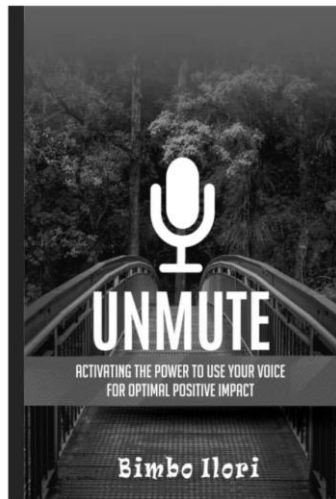
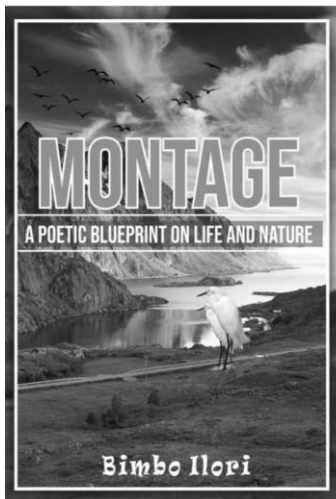
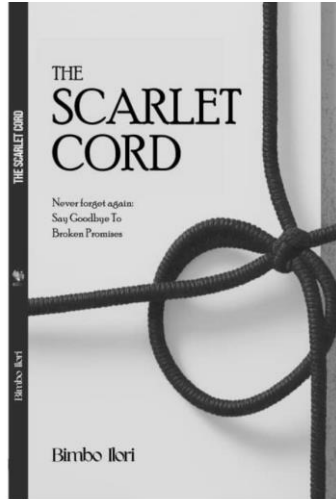
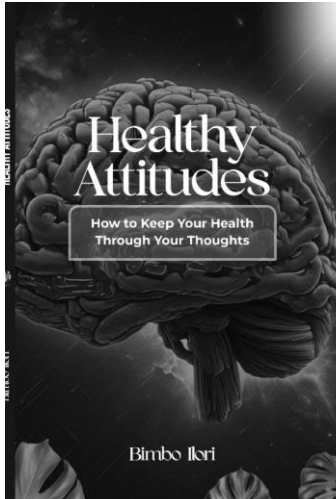
## Articles & Journals

1. Articles on Workplace Faith Integration from sources like Faith & Work Journal or The Gospel and Work.

2. "The Science of Work-Life Balance" – Articles exploring how to balance career and calling effectively.

3. Academic journals on personal development and leadership which provide evidence of the impact of purpose-aligned work.

## Other Books By The Author



# EMPOWERED

**Empowered: Simple Steps to Align Career with Your Calling**, explores how to transform your career from just a job into a platform for fulfilling your God-given purpose. This book provides practical steps to help you align your skills, passions, and strengths with your work, enabling you to find deeper meaning and fulfillment. By embracing an empowerment mindset, redefining your approach to work, and navigating setbacks with purpose, you are encouraged to live out your calling with confidence, no matter your profession.

The journey is not without challenges, but with faith, intentional growth, and a commitment to aligning your actions with your divine purpose, you can become an intrapreneur, one who influences and empowers change within their workplace. This process is ongoing, requiring reflection and growth, but it leads to a life where work is no longer just a means to an end but a fulfilling pursuit that reflects your true calling. Empowered to live out your purpose, you can make a lasting impact in your career and the world around you.



Bimbo Ilori is an author with a purposive drive in her context. She has written over 35 books including bestsellers.

She is a master's holder in Administration, a fellow, the chartered administrators professional, and a certified life and purpose coach.

She teaches, writes and speaks about her passion, which includes Administration, a purpose-led life, and giving perspectives on the essentials of life.

She is married to Bisi Ilori and they are blessed with children.



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