

Your Now Is Next! Is a must read for anyone who desires the will, drive, and grind to overcome life's undesirable circumstances. This book gives 10 concepts that can be used to rise above confusion, self doubt, fear, brokenness, and many other progress paralyzing obstacles. Your Now Is Next!

YOUR NOW IS NEXT!

10 JEWELS TO ACCESS YOUR POWER TO OVERCOME –

With Quotes by Vincent van Gogh
by LARRY STACY

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LARRY STACY

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Jewel One:
ACCEPT GOD

In today's ever so volatile world, we need protection that begins within our spirit and spreads outwardly to cover our entire self. There are more spiritual terrorist than ever on the prowl with the sole intent to seek and destroy any righteous thing in its path. These spiritual attacks become more advanced as the world evolves by using any relevant medium known to man as a weapon. People, places, radio, television, film, the internet, cell phones and other technologies are among the most popular mediums being used to attack the world today.

The faster we understand and accept that we are fighting a spiritual war and not a racial, political, economical or technological war, the better our chances of survival become. These are definitely issues that we face on a day to day basis and must be approached with caution, but they are only small battles within the real war at hand. In order to win the war, we must first recognize the true enemy. The aforementioned mediums are only vessels used to trick the human mind into thinking that the vessel is

the true enemy. This is where we must transform our thought processes and no longer identify the vessel as the enemy. Take a deeper look inside the vessel to extract the true enemy: the dark spirits that come to rob, kill, steal, and destroy the most prized possession known to man: PURPOSE.

God created mankind with a preordained purpose. This means we are all born in, as well as, on purpose. We are introduced into the world already serving a purpose and as we grow, so does our purpose. The moment that we Accept God as our creator we start to water the seed which he planted inside of us and our purpose begins to grow with us throughout our lives.

Accepting God requires us to align with Him spiritually which opens the door for us to access his unlimited source of power and protection. We need this unlimited power source to fight against the dark spirits that are attacking us everyday. Knowledge, wisdom, and understanding are all key components of God's unlimited power. Accessing God's protection covers us in his armor from head to toe and protects us from the blows of the enemy. These blows or attacks come upon us in the form of self doubt, sickness, distress, finance, depression, addiction, and

loss just to name a few. These are all spiritual attacks and their sole purpose is to destroy our purpose.

The enemy uses many different vessels to disguise these types of attacks. For example, social media is the number one vessel being used to attack us in our day to day lives. We must understand what makes social media so powerful is its vastness, speed at which it can deliver information, and the ability to provoke emotions or feelings.

Many people have had their purpose compromised because of a comment, video or picture on one or more social media platforms. If we are not covered by the whole armor of God, this type of attack can deal a lethal blow. Accepting God in our spirit will grant us the power to recognize the true enemy is not the social media platform, but the dark spirit that is trying to pierce our armor by using a popular, well recognized vessel. The enemy knows the only way inside our spirit is by invitation. What we see as a harmless way to interact with friends, loved ones, and acquaintances becomes an invitation in the eyes of the enemy. How? The social media platform itself has no spirit. It is only a string of computer codes put together that provides a meeting place for all types of spirits, therefore the enemy can come and go as it pleases. Once we invite

the social media platform into our lives then the enemy has identified a way to penetrate our lives and provoke those feelings of self doubt as well as cause confusion.

The knowledge, wisdom, and understanding that is of God are very important weapons in the fight to live our purpose; on purpose. We need them to navigate the road blocks, illusions, and attacks that the enemy uses to kill our purpose. One thing we must understand is the fact that we can gain power over the enemy by first recognizing the 'true enemy'. This is very important because that which we are not aware of is what causes the most harm in our lives. In most cases the true enemy camouflages behind people, places, things, and thoughts.

We must realize the things of the physical world are often used as vessels for the true enemy to move about the world in a manner that avoids exposing it's true self. Think about a time that you let anger control your actions. The person, place, thing, or thought that got you to that point is only a vessel used by the true enemy, so physically attacking that person, place, or thing does not rid you of the true enemy. That attack only makes way for the true enemy to spread it's

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wrath further by means of retaliation and the spread of rage.

Once the true enemy has injected its evil toxin into your life and those around us, it moves on to find its next victim to repeat the process. It knows if not handled properly, the evil wrath will manifest in that place as long as we hold on to those negative thoughts and emotions. When you put on the whole armor of God then you bear the weapons needed to first identify and then defeat the true enemy one battle at a time. Show the true enemy weapons like, patience, humbleness, compassion, Love, and understanding. These weapons will surely cause the true enemy to flee because without an invitation wrapped in confusion and fear it has no place to dwell.

We have all faced stressful situations that have led us into undesirable circumstance. I have found through God that when I am faced with these types of situations, I have the power to assess the stress in an effort to understand whether I am experiencing Actual stress, Imagined stress, or Implied stress. This assessment helps me to move forward in the direction which leads me away from becoming a prisoner of that circumstance.

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Actual Stress is what I like to describe as a stress that comes from a situation that has actually happened already and our only option is to deal with it head on, but more importantly survive the circumstance. Death, sickness, and loss can all cause actual stress in our lives. They can leave us feeling hopeless, lonely, and betrayed. I assure you by the grace of God he will restore your hope and strengthen your faith during these tough times, but only if you receive him in your spirit.

Imagined Stress is a category that I use to describe stress that stems from circumstances that have not yet happened in your life. The 'what if' moments in life that test our faith in God. The five o'clock news reports that job cuts are on the way in our job sector and we instantly stress over the report. If it has not happened yet we can definitely avoid that extra stress. We must understand that some things are not predestined to turn out the way in which we think or planned they should, but in a way that God has predestined to our purpose. Imagined stress is not real, and once we learn to decipher it we can quickly move forward away from it.

Stress that we feel 'just because' we think we are supposed to feel stressed over a certain 'type' of

situation is what I like to refer to as Implied Stress. The circumstance 'implies' that I should be stressed therefore 'I am stressed' is the attitude that we take on. In this instance something has actually happened, but God has placed you in a position that allows you to move on gracefully and instead of walking in that grace we actually wallow in our own self pity. If an undesirable circumstance presents itself and it does not cause the type of pain that you anticipate then it is perfectly fine to move forward without remorse. As the old adage goes 'you were built for it.'

Using these God given principles can significantly reduce the amount of stress that we experience in our lives. I challenge you to assess the next stressful situation that arises in your life and decide whether it shows characteristics of Actual, Imagined, or Implied stress and deal with it accordingly. Eliminating stress is crucial in this worldly existence that we call life. Once we can understand the type of stress we are experiencing, then our chances of overcoming that stress rises significantly. Having tools available that help to categorize stress can help tremendously when trying to manage so many different forms of stress. The fight against the true enemy can be so distracting in the fact that we are often so focused on the external

attacks that we forget about the festering, internal attacks that are self inflicted. Stress management is key in healing these self inflicted wounds.

Once we take that leap of faith and accept God in our spirit, the path to purpose becomes very clear. Let's say you go out to a store and buy a product that requires assembly, but once you get it home the instructions were a bit confusing to the point it leaves you guessing what to do next. Would it be more rewarding to speak with someone at the store you purchased the product from or the manufacturer of the product concerning further instruction? In this scenario the manufacturer would definitely be the most qualified source to explain the full assembly and intended purpose for the product that you purchased.

To accept God in our spirit puts us in direct contact with our creator who can lead us down the path to our purpose. God is the most qualified source when searching for our life's purpose. For this reason, accepting God in our spirit is the single most important step in accessing our power to overcome. Believing in the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit is the only true way to accept God in our spirit entirely.

The spiritual war over our purpose is a grueling battle day in and day out. Preparing yourself for the

war can be overwhelming. With the right tools ready to deploy daily, we can win the important small battles that will ultimately lead us to living out our purpose every day. Staying in a perpetual state of thankfulness throughout good and bad circumstances is also important. Ask God for a spiritual hunger that only he can feed. Living spiritually is the only way to live in the world and not of the world. This is how we win the spiritual war at hand.

Habitual Challenge: In my life I regularly challenge myself to replace the phrase “I KNOW” with “I BELIEVE” when I am dealing with an uncertain circumstance.

The Why: I think that using the words “I believe” acknowledges God's power to allow miraculous wonders to take place in both the physical and spiritual worlds. The words “ I know” can be too concrete which can attempt to put limitations on God's almighty power.

***“I am always doing what I cannot do yet,
in order to learn how to do it”***

-Vincent van Gogh

Jewel Two:
ADAPT & SURVIVE

Once we are equipped with the whole amour of God, we are granted the willpower to adapt and survive any circumstance the true enemy tries to use against us. These two very important skill sets go hand in hand. Adaptation feeds survival. If we can not adapt then our chances of survival diminish significantly.

The true enemy does not provide a shortage of undesirable circumstances. If we are not equipped with a good understanding of how to deal with the situation, we risk becoming prisoners of the undesirable circumstance. I like to refer to it as our 'Grindability' or the ability to grind through obstacles and overcome them. Some of life's road blocks do not have a known expiration date. They show up without a readily available solution in sight. In troubling times as such we must take on a mindset that is adaptable to the situation. If we can master adaptation then our chances of survival increase dramatically.

Conquering adaptation is time critical. We must assess the undesirable circumstance at hand and decide if it is a 'hit and run' or a 'life long' attack. In the

case of a hit and run attack it is critical that we deal with it and get over it as soon as possible because these are the most frequent attacks that we will encounter.

In most cases we deal with hit and run attacks daily. An annoying co-worker, spousal disagreements, disobedient children, an offensive social media post, or a micro managing boss are all examples of hit and run attacks that we face throughout the day. These type of attacks can cripple our survival if we do not recognize and adapt to the situation accordingly. The last thing that we want to happen is to be sulking over a hit and run attack when a life long attack is lurking.

Life long attacks are those that you will have to constantly adapt to your whole life in order to survive. They usually come in the form of sickness, death of a family member or loved one, addictions, finances, mental illness, self doubt, hatred, and lifestyle choices just to name a few. All of the aforementioned attacks can lead to behavioral dysfunctions like self medicating, inconsistent thoughts, self inflicted bodily harm among many. The reason for these behaviors stem from a lack of spiritual conscience and stability. The temporary “fix” that these behaviors provide only apply to the physical person and leaves the spiritual

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self in the same state as before the self medicating behavior took place. If we can focus on building strength spiritually, we can deal with the problem at the source in our spirit. Dysfunctional behaviors take hold in our spirits and in order to combat them, we must fight them there.

These types of attacks can keep you in a perpetual state of adaptation. Your survival depends on how well you manage the time it takes to recover from the smaller hit and run attacks encountered daily. The key is to develop the ability to compartmentalize each attack in order to understand how much time and energy to spend on the matter. In one mental compartment place the 'hit and runs', in another mental compartment place the 'life longs' and deal with each compartment accordingly. The objective is to get as many hit and run attacks off your plate as quick as possible because they require the least amount of energy to combat. Doing this leaves us with more energy to fight and adapt to the life long attacks which require significantly more energy to deal with.

Achieving specific goals that we set in our lives depend on our ability to adapt and survive. Whether pursuing a higher education, starting a new business, or going after a promotion, there will be naysayers and

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obstacles to overcome. In order to overcome we must focus on aligning our actions with our beliefs. The more actions that we align with what we believe in, gives more power to our actual desired outcome becoming our reality. When we disregard the relationship between our actions and beliefs, then we invite stress into our lives.

We often experience this in our lives when it comes to what we do for a living. We work the job that we hate so much because it aligns with the ideologies that were fed to us once we became of a working age. Most of us were taught that we should do whatever it takes to provide for the family, so that is what we do. Teaching our children to work hard is very important, but more important is teaching our kids about purpose and that hard work is not limited to punching a time clock or working for someone else. They deserve to know that the world is filled with opportunities for them to live their purpose and build self sustaining entities capable of providing for not only their families but for generations to come.

Often this is where our conflict arises. As we work this job (action) that we hate so much, we form a (belief) that there has to be more to life than what we are experiencing (purpose). The only way to resolve

the conflict between the undesirable circumstance and the desired circumstance is to align our actions with our beliefs by pursuing things outside of that job that actually align with our beliefs about our purpose. The pursuit of knowledge and skills that relate to your purpose outside of your job can lead to financial gain which gives you the power to move on and survive without that particular job. This is a very important key to mastering adaptation and survival. You will adapt to and survive these attacks once you recognize the type of attack and deal with it accordingly. We must stay focused on the big picture and that is living out our purpose every day on purpose. As stated above, adaptation feeds survival, but survival ultimately depends on recognizing what it is that we are going up against. We gain power when we recognize the enemy.

There are so many forms that the enemy can present itself in and it is crucial that we learn to change position during the battle. Life without change is a constant; constant worry, constant fear, constant doubt, constant brokenness, constant bitterness, and or constant anger. In order to rise above and overcome, we must change our constant.

“The beginning is perhaps more difficult than anything else, but keep heart, it will turn out all right.”

-Vincent van Gogh

Jewel Three:
BUILD STABILITY

Now that we have an understanding of how to adapt and give ourselves a chance to survive, we can focus on building stability in our lives. When I speak of stability I am speaking mainly of spiritual stability. Spiritual stability comes about when we have a good grip on the tools that we develop and deploy during the adapt and survive stages. We have developed the power to access our weapons and defend ourselves against an array of attacks on different levels at any time. The impact of 'hit and run' attacks are kept to a minimum and our 'life long' attacks are at levels that make it possible for us to cope.

Managing these attacks in a way that keep the noise levels low makes it possible for us to hear more of our purpose. Once we can hear more of our purpose we can take more actions that align with our belief in our purpose. If we are dealing with attacks all day everyday and constantly playing defense, we never give ourselves a chance to actively engage our purpose.

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Building spiritual stability gives us the foundation and framework we need to add everything else according to our purpose. Think of this stage in terms of a construction company erecting a new building. They must first pour the foundation and attach the framework. Then they can add all of the nice vanity pieces that makes everyone notice the building. If that building does not have a good foundation and framework, a strong gust of wind will blow it down without much effort. In the same manner we have to pour our foundation and lay our framework so that we can be strong and sturdy during times of distress.

Spiritual stability requires a strong sense of belief and faith because it often makes up for shortages that the physical world understands as a roadblock that could possibly derail our marriage to purpose. Money shortages, time restraints, physical disabilities are examples of attacks that spiritual stability can fight off. It gives us will power to carry on regardless of what the physical world says we lack. Spiritual stability is the mystery behind the rags to riches stories that we have all heard about. Homeless one day, rich and or famous the next day. The people who have lived this scenario out possessed something that could not be accounted for by the human eye and this is why we are

so amazed at these type of stories. We get left with questions like “how did he/she start a multi million dollar company from nothing?” The fact of the matter is purpose is not always clear. Most of the time we can sense our purpose even when we can't see it. Believing that your actions align with your purpose is very important. There will come a time when the true enemy will attack in the form of people, places, things and circumstances that will try to knock us off track, but we must possess stability in the form of unwavering faith and belief in our purpose.

God has given us all purpose in the same way he gave Noah purpose in building his Arc. Our purpose lives inside of us, as well as all around us and we are responsible for gathering it to build the platform for it to be displayed upon. Build it by starting that new business, pursue that new degree, add a new addition to your family, apply for that new job. Whatever it is in your life that beckons you to challenge yourself and rise above your average, dormant self I COMMAND YOU TO DO IT! Some will not believe you, some will not understand you, but the ones whom your purpose is akin to will know and follow you.

We must become intrinsically motivated which means being motivated from within ourselves and not

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by outside rewards and standards set by others. Perhaps this explains the “crash” that we sometimes experience after a seminar or coaching session. Inside the session we often get caught up in the speaker's story and message that we forget about our own or start to self doubt because we measure ourselves based on the standards that the speaker set. In actuality we should be focusing on how the information best relates to our own purpose and how to best use it to further our strides toward good success.

One great way to reinforce our spiritual stability is to surround ourselves with the people, places, or things that resemble where we want to be in life. This includes surrounding yourself with like minded individuals, and other people who are pursuing their life's purpose. Create alliances with those people and support each other by becoming a value add to the relationship. Information and social gatherings are abundant on the internet today. Use the abundant resources that are available to you that can reinforce your spiritual stability. Workshops, seminars, trade shows, and reputable social media platforms are great starting places to build your 'power alliance.' It is a real stumbling block to be surrounded by people,

places, and things that we have spiritually outgrown. While you are readying yourself and preparing for the next great thing in your life, the only thing they can see is the worldly circumstances that the enemy has put forth to stop positive progress.

When building stability it is very important to develop an awareness of the people whom we elect to contribute to our life story. A practical example that I use is to imagine your life is a book. When you think about a book cover, it is usually designed to attract a certain type of reader. In our own lives we should strive to present ourselves in a manner that attracts a certain type of positive energy. The type of positive energy that fuels our desire to live our purpose. Now, lets look at what makes up the pages of a book. Letters make up the words, words make up sentences, and sentences make up each paragraph in the book. Let's think about each person we have invited into our lives up until this point as a letter. In order to make a coherent word we must have a string of the correct letters. Likewise in life, the correct string of people will produce very positive and motivating experiences. These experiences are like the sentences in our book of life. When strung together, the sentences ultimately make up multiple paragraphs that entail our life's

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purpose. If we fail to invite the right people in, we get misspelled words and incomplete sentences in our book of life. This translates to negative experiences and failures that hinder our purpose.

In essence; people, places, and things make up experiences. These experiences make up our life's purpose. Our purpose is the book of our lives that we leave behind.

While building stability, it is very important to ask ourselves the following questions:

- **Am I aligning myself with my purpose?**
- **What am I doing to align myself with my purpose?**
- **What more can I do?**
- **Who can help me get there?**

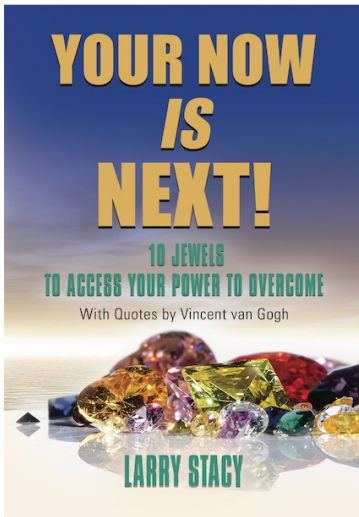
***"I dream my painting and I paint my dream."
-Vincent van Gogh***

***“Those who dream by day are cognizant of many things
which escape those who dream only by night.”***

-Vincent van Gogh

Reference

“Vincent van Gogh Quotes.” (2016). Retrieved from https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/34583.Vincent_Van_Gogh



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