

Family Life Teachings

Theme - The Purpose Driven Family

The Potential Principle - Part 1

He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much. Therefore if you have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in what is another mans, who will give you what is your own?  
(Luke 16:10-12 NKJV)

All men are sent to the world with limitless credit, but few draw on it to their full extent!

It is a tragedy to know that with over seven billion people on this planet today, only a minute percentage will experience a significant fraction of their true potential.

You must understand the tremendous potential you possess and commit yourself to maximizing it in your short lifetime.

What is potential, anyway?

Potential is the dormant ability, reserved power, untapped strength and unused success God designed into each of us.

What I see when I look at you is not all you are. It is only what you have become so far. Your potential is much greater than what you are right now. What you will become is much more than we could ever believe now. You have a great deal of potential because you came out of God, and He leaked some of Himself into you.

Potential is unexposed ability and latent power!

Potential is not what you have done, but what you are yet able to do. In other words, what you have done is no longer your potential. What you have successfully accomplished is no longer your potential.

It is said that unless you do something beyond what you have done, you will never grow or experience your full

potential. Potential demands that you never settle for what you have accomplished.

Success is not what you have done compared to what others have done, but what you have done compared to what you were supposed to do. It is simply coming up to the level of our best, making the most of our abilities and possibilities.

To be successful is to finish the originally intended assignment according to the plan and the specifications of the creator. Purpose is thus the key and the foundation of success. It is the only true source of fulfillment and the only accurate measurement of life.

There is a strong correlation between purpose and potential; purpose is fueled by potential!

Success cannot be determined by the opinions of others about your actions, but by the satisfaction of the One who gave you the assignment.

The Potential Principle

To simplify this concept let us look at one of the most powerful elements in nature - the seed. If I held a seed in my hand and asked you, "What do I have in my hand?" what would you say? Perhaps you would answer what seems to be the obvious - a seed. However, if you understand the nature of a seed, your answer would be a fact but not the truth.

The truth is I hold a forest in my hand. Why? Because in every seed there is a tree, and in every tree there is fruit or flowers with seeds in them. And these seeds also have trees that have fruit that have seeds...that have trees that have fruit that have seeds, etc. In essence, what you see is not all there is. That is potential.

Potential is not what is, but what could be!

No man can climb beyond the limitations of his own belief!

Every day sends to the grave obscure men and women whom fear prevented from realizing their true and full potential!

God created everything with potential, including you. He placed the seed of each thing within itself (Genesis 1:12), and planted within each person or thing He created the ability to be much more than it is at any one moment.

And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:12 NKJV)

Everything in life has potential! What you see is not all there is. There is something more than is seen in everything.

Adam's Example:

In Adam, God gave the earth a seed with the potential of one...one hundred...one thousand...one million...The seven billion people on the earth today were in that one man's loins. God knew that in Adam and Eve there were enough people to fill the earth. That's the way God works. He knows the potential principle because He introduced it.

He did not create a ready-made human race—the earth was not given an instant population. God made one person—not a million people. He started with one seed. Then from that one He created another. Then He said to those seeds, “Bless you (that means, ‘You have My permission’). Be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth.”

The problem with us in most cases is that we expect the "7 billion" instantly, and don't recognize that it is already in what is our hands!

**DON'T SETTLE FOR WHAT YOU HAVE!**

There is so much capability that lie dormant, untapped and unused within you!

God is always looking for what is not yet visible. He expects to find inside each person and thing He created more than is evident on the outside. On the other hand, man is often satisfied with what he has—or at least if not satisfied, he thinks there is nothing better. Thus he settles for what he has.

Therein lies the tragedy of life. The minute we begin to settle down and be satisfied with what we have, we lose the possibility of revealing what is really inside us. Majority die without exploring the gifts, abilities, and successes that lay hidden within them. Their thoughts, ideas, and possibilities are not used. They fail to realize the vast potential that is stored within them.

They are like batteries in a radio that is never played—their potential is wasted!

They fail to use all that was stored in them for the benefit of the world.

It is estimated that we use as little as ten percent of our abilities. Ninety percent of our capabilities lie dormant and wasted.

Who you are today depended on what you saw yesterday, and who you will be tomorrow depends on what you see today!

What do you see of your family and children's tomorrow?

To be continued...

Family Life Ministry