

Understanding God's Will

His Purpose with me individually:

- Know Him intimately
- Trust Him
- Obey Him
- Enjoy Him
- Make Him known

The Scriptures tell us:

- Who He is, His nature and attributes
- What He wants
- Who we are
- How to live

We are to learn His ways (Psalm 25:4)

- With humanity
- With nature
- With us individually

Key requirements for Understanding God's Will are faith, obedience, humility, alertness and teachability.

As we pay close attention to how He has made us, we will gradually learn how to better steward who we are and will discover His Particular Purpose for our lives—
Our One Degree.

Helpful Scriptures for Understanding God's Will:

Genesis 45:8	Romans 8:28
Genesis 50:20	Romans 12:1-8
Exodus 31:1-11	2 Corinthians 12:7-10
Deuteronomy 8:16-18	Ephesians 2:10
Psalms 16	Ephesians 4:10,11
Psalms 18	Philippians 3:7-16
Psalms 25	Colossians 2:6-15
Psalms 27	Hebrews 10:19-20
Psalms 31	Hebrews 12:1-13
Psalms 32:8	1 Peter 4:10-11
Psalms 37	
Psalms 71	
Psalms 84	
Psalms 139	
Matthew 6:24-34	
Acts 9:26-30	

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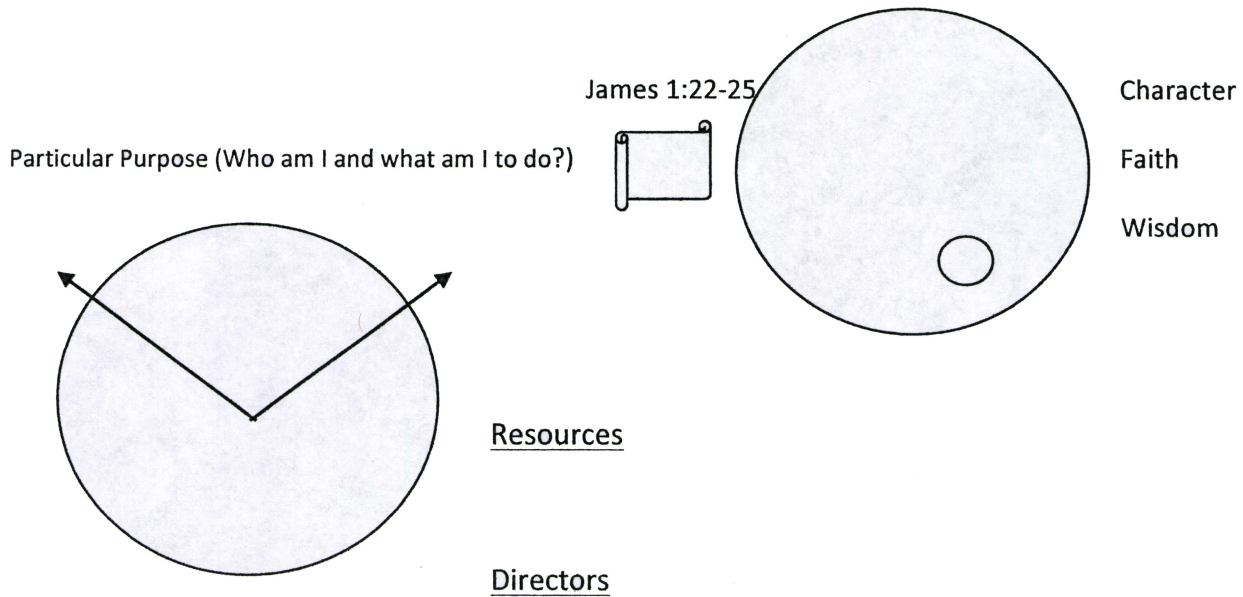
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As we pay close attention to how He has made us, we will gradually learn how to
better steward who we are and will discover His particular purpose for our lives—
Our One Desire.

Helpful scriptures for understanding God's Will:

Genesis 22:1-18	Acts 9:26-30
Genesis 50:20	Matthew 6:24-34
Exodus 31:1-11	Psalm 139
Deuteronomy 8:16-18	Psalm 81
Psalm 16	Psalm 71
Psalm 18	Psalm 61
Psalm 26	Psalm 139
Psalm 27	Matthew 6:24-34
Psalm 37	Acts 9:26-30
Psalm 71	
Psalm 81	
Psalm 139	
Matthew 6:24-34	
Acts 9:26-30	

General Christian Purpose (Who is He and what is He saying?)



Directors: 6 areas that God has elevated/emphasized in ones life over the years ("taps on the shoulder")

		F	F
		F	F
Drivers →	Greens + (energize, give life; positive)	F	F
	Yellows (good at these but they don't energize; neutral)		
	Reds -- (may be good at these but they drain us; negative)		

Some symptoms of operating in a "net negative" over time:

- | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|
| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. |
| 5. | 6. | 7. | 8. |

Experiences

Skills/Knowledge

Interests/Passion

Giftedness

Nature

Dave Jewitt's DESIGN Summary

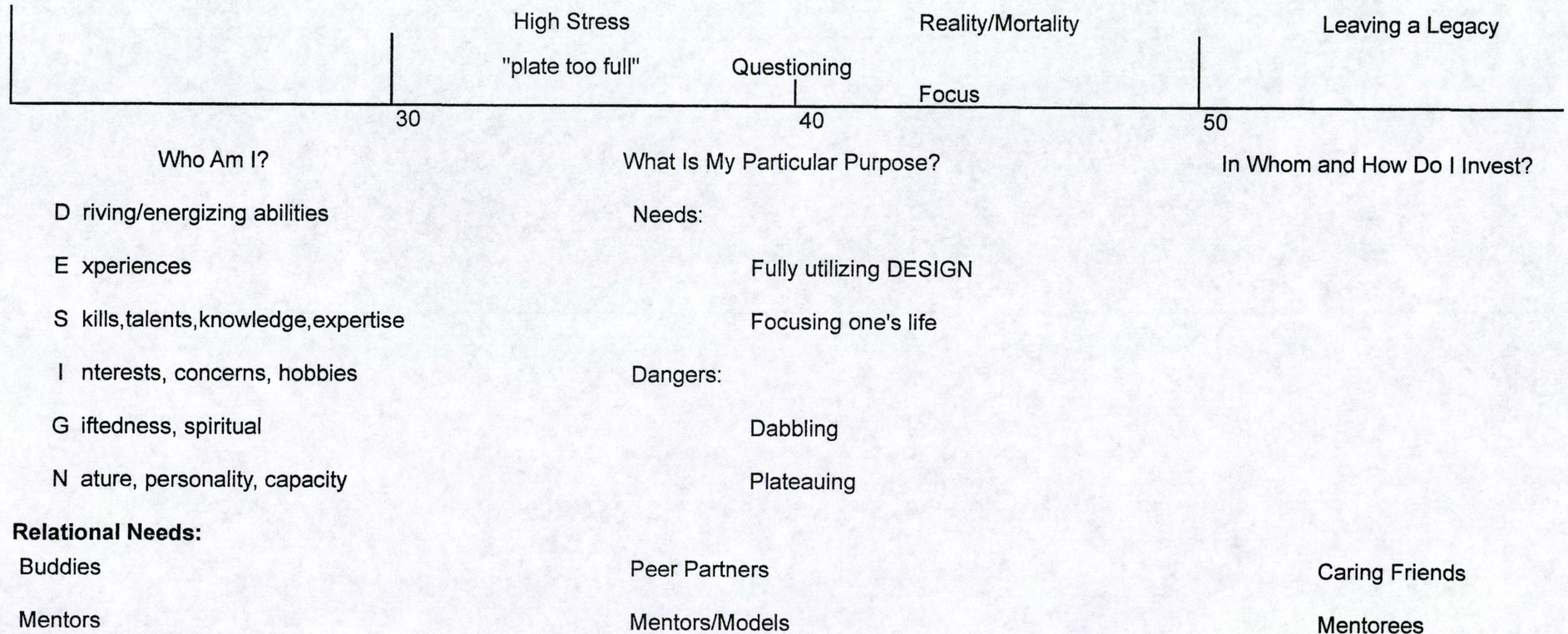
Drivers	Advise/Guide Mentor/Coach Relationship Build Connect People
Experiences	25 years in Corporate America--connect/relate with variety 35 years of Mentoring/Discipling--know men's hearts 2 year painful transition from Corporate--men in transition
Skills/Knowledge	Personal/Leadership Development Biblical Wisdom principles Articulating concepts Winning trust
Interests/Passion	Helping Leaders develop Men in life transition Focusing/Stewarding one's life Biblical leadership
Giftedness	Exhortation--men one-on-one and in groups Discernment--assessing the condition of a man's heart Wisdom--perspective in life
Nature	Low-key Friendly Quietly intense High relational capacity

SEASONS OF LIFE

Learning

Contributing

Investing



Developed by Paul Stanley

This diagram has been instrumental in helping countless men gain valuable perspective in their lives and it addresses Three Basic Themes in the life of an adult man, key questions he needs answers to, common characteristics, dangers, the interplay of knowing oneself with living a purposeful life, and how to prepare for finishing well.

The first theme is 18-30, the second is 30-50, and the third is 50+. There are actually about 10 distinct phases in a man's life but you and I won't remember them so we'll stick with 3.

The first theme is "Learning."

Think of all the learning that happens during these years--formal education, first real job, marriage, children, etc. Learning is predominant in this phase, though we will be learning the rest of our lives.

A key question that needs answered, preferably during the 20's, is "Who am I?" This question isn't in search of a philosophical answer but a practical one. We feel that one way to help a man answer this is by looking at six different components of his life--his energizing abilities, his experiences, his skills and knowledge, his Interests and Passion, his spiritual Giftedness, and his Nature-personality.

The D of DESIGN is so critical to a man because it helps him manage his energy over time. If he ignores this and doesn't manage to it, he will likely run out of gas in life and will no longer offer all he has to others who need the benefit of his experience, knowledge, etc.

During this time a man also needs Buddies to learn with and Mentors to learn from, to provide a sounding board and to give perspective and guidance.

The second theme is "Contributing."

This stage brings with it new opportunities for increasing responsibilities along with larger stresses. Often time in the early 30's men show signs of having way too much on their plates because their kids are now becoming involved in numerous activities and their work/church/community friends are expecting them to contribute by serving in those areas. This can lead to over-commitment and the possibility of burn-out. As a man moves through the exciting, though exhausting, challenges of the 30's he's getting more and more tired. Around the time he hits 40 he starts asking some key questions that he now has an emotional need for. Questions about purpose, what does he really believe, why does he do what he does, why has he made the decisions he has, etc. Meanwhile the key question for a man from 30-50 is "What's My Particular Purpose?" On top of all this, he then goes through the 40's when he is losing more energy/stamina, pressures and responsibilities are still increasing, and he also experiences Reality/Mortality. He may have met his goals or not met them, but in either case he's thinking, "Is this all there is?" He's also starting to lose loved ones and friends to sickness and death. This has a profound effect on his thinking, and he starts setting his sights on just surviving long enough to retire

Because he is tired and doesn't have an adequate answer to his particular purpose, he's in very real danger of Dabbling--desperate grasping for meaning and fun, or Plateauing--letting the light go out in his heart, not making any waves but basically giving up on having a real impact going forward. What SHOULD be true by this time is he should know his DESIGN and he should know his particular purpose and he should start focusing his contributing according to his DESIGN so that he has sufficient energy and satisfaction and effectiveness. In his forties he should be gaining understanding of how to walk with God and just how God uses his life so that as he heads into his 50's his focus and the theme should be Investing in others.

In his 50's his main question should be "In whom and how do I invest in people?" If he hasn't adequately answered the questions of the first two periods, he will likely not finish well. It is never too late. A man can wake up in his 50's and beyond, realize he wants to make more of a difference, and get serious about clarifying his DESIGN and particular purpose. When he does that and aligns with what he learns, his life will regain passion, focus, and impact for the Lord.

So, men. If you want to make the maximum impact with your life, you must discover your DESIGN, align with it, have it point you to your particular purpose, and start actively focusing your contributing. This will insure that you have ample energy, focus, and impact in the last phase of your life.

LIFE STAGES

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18

30

40

55

Learning Years

Building Years

Focusing Years

Investing Years

Core Question:

Who am I?

Core Question:

Where is my place?

Core Question:

Why am I here?

Core Question:

How do I finish well &
leave an enduring legacy?

Characteristics:

High activity

Broad learning

Hopeful/anxious

Searching/verifying

Accomplishing

Gathering

Self-oriented

Survival

Characteristics:

Intense schedule

Narrow learning

Tyranny of the urgent

Dealing with baggage

Achieving, making it

Improving

Work-oriented

Success

Characteristics:

Changing schedule

Targeted learning

Uncertain/weary

Questioning/adjusting

Contributing>Influencing

Mastering

Purpose-oriented

Significance

Characteristics:

Focused/looser schedule

Precision learning

Anxious

Accepting

Influencing>Contributing

Converging

Others-oriented

Security

God awakens desire

God deepens

desire

God fulfills desire

Potential

Development

of

Purpose

Grow in wisdom & stature, in favor with God & men

Great affect

Dangers:

Bad life decisions

No "fathers"

Weak inner life

Not knowing self/untested

Dangers:

No anchors, life structures

No "fathers, brothers"

Doing overrides being

No intimacy

Dangers:

Mid-life melt-down

No "fathers, brothers"

Dabbling

Plateauing

Dangers:

Stop learning & growing

Lack of purpose (Rolelessness)

Not finishing well

No meaningful connections

Key to Succeeding:

Exposure/experience

Understanding self

Faithfulness

"Fathers"

Feedback, adjustment

Respond-grow-learn

Inner-life growth

Ministry participation

Key to Succeeding:

Developing life structures

Applying self

Stewardship

"Fathers, Brothers"

Feedback, adjustment

Respond-grow-learn

Inner-life growth

Identifying ministry

Key to Succeeding:

Clarifying purpose

Focusing self

Stewardship

"Fathers, Brothers"

Feedback, adjustment

Respond-grow-learn

Inner-life growth

Intentional ministry

Key to Succeeding:

Making final years count

Investing self

Generosity

"Brothers"

Feedback, adjustment

Respond-grow-learn

Inner-life growth

Identifying your legacy

**Leadership Development
Stages and Content**

Developmental Phases	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
Characteristics of individual in a particular phase	New or immature believer who demonstrates leadership/ influence potential along with a heart to grow.	Growing believer who has yielded his life to serve and grow and desires to help others.	Equipped believer who naturally demonstrates an abiding relationship with Christ and skillfully helps others using his/her DESIGN.	Mature believer who demonstrates an impacting life which flows from deep devotion to Christ, active intercession and focused living.
Development Venue	Weekly Small group and occasional 1 on 1	Weekly small group and monthly 1 on 1	Weekly small group and weekly 1 on 1	Monthly small group of peer leaders
Content/Topics/Issues	Assurances Privileges Obedience/Victory Lordship Faith Abiding Word Prayer Fellowship Basic Evangelism Vision Nature/Attributes of God	Consistency in basics Integrity/Purity Humility/Servant Heart Faithfulness Stewardship Deeper faith DESIGN Particular Purpose Timeline Handling Objections Leadership Principles Inductive Study	Biblical study projects Integrity/Transparency Accountability Faith/Waiting Fruit of Spirit Intercession Spiritual Warfare Life Mission Word skills Leadership dynamics Selection Ministry Philosophy	Deepening Character Strengthening Disciplines Stretching Faith Loving Effectively Humility Broader Intercession Focusing One's Life Deeper Friendships Counseling Skills Mentoring Skills Planning Communicating Vision
Desired Outcomes of the leadership development efforts	Understands how to grow and is making steady progress; is reaching out to others and eager to serve	Is steadily increasing in obedience, understanding, and stability; gaining initial vision for his life.	Leading groups of Phase 1 and 2 with increasing effectiveness, reproducing his life.	Skillfully serving in a role with organizational or individual responsibility; mentoring emerging leaders and modeling to in-place leaders.
Expected involvement of the developing leader	Informal encouraging of those in his circle; perhaps assisting/teaching, someone in a structured area of service.	Short-term commitment to assist with classes or activities; is taking initiative to meet with others to encourage them to grow.	Longer term commitments in area of demonstrated effectiveness; intentionally developing other leaders via groups and/or 1 on 1.	On-going commitments to use his/her DESIGN to bless, develop and deeply impact the organization; very focused in ministry; actively and deliberately developing Phase 2 and 3 leaders.

