

FROM STAGNATION TO TRANSFORMATION

Clifton Pettyjohn

Copyright © Clifton Pettyjohn, 2017

ISBN: 9781520906850

All rights reserved. This book or any portion thereof may not be reproduced or used in any manner whatsoever without the express written permission of the publisher except for the use of brief quotations in a book review.

Printed in the United States of America

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

To every mentor, teacher, supervisor, consultant, baseball coach, colleague, prognosticator, friend and associate that believed in me enough to invest time, energy, opportunities, advice, capital, and resources into my life; I say thank you. Each of you served an integral part in the materialization of this project and my ultimate purpose. I pray that in reading this book you will realize that your investments were not ineffectual.

Apostle Anthony T. Flowers and Prophetess Pastor Ruth A. Flowers no words can express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation. You two were my spiritual foundation, that is evident in my execution of ministry as well as business. You took a broken little boy and assisted in the development of the independently strong willed and determined gentleman I am today. I am forever indebted to your tutelage and forever grateful for your love, rebuke, reproof, time, energy, and resources. I pray the favor of the Lord will forever be your portion and that this season will be a season of perpetual abundance.

To the Pettyjohn family, I share this accomplishment with each of you. We have struggled and suffered much, I pray that this

accomplishment will fuel and accouter each of us with the revelation that there is always a blessing within the struggle and if we hold on just a little while longer it will prove to be well worth it. I love you all and thank you for the part you each play in my life.

To my boys, well now men, D'Andre (Dre) Santiago and Eugene (Gene) Baine, I am so proud of the men you have both developed into. Both of you have powerful stories. Although divergent, you both bear the adroitness not just to impact but to transform lives. I pray that in both of your journeys you will be introduced to purpose, in the manner that I have, so that the legacy you leave for your little ones will be far greater than the ones left for you both. Know that I love you and I am grateful that God entrusted you both to me. I am a greater man because of my experience with the both of you.

To my dad, Clifton M. Holland, you have had a far greater impact on my life than you may be aware. I am grateful for you and I pray that in all that I do you can say that you are a proud father. I pray that God begins to release stored up blessings from the seeds you have secretly sown through the imprint you have made in the lives of others. I love you and appreciate who you are to me.

DEDICATION

I dedicate this literary work to my greatest inspiration, my mother ALICIA J. PETTYJOHN. She was a single mother that made no excuses, she simply made moves. She was an eminent archetype of the love of God and she embodied a smile that could light up a room, as well as lift your spirit. I just wish she was here today to share this accomplishment, yet I rejoice in knowing that one day...

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	09
-------------------	----

PART I. (Days 1 – 10)

1: First Step.....	15
2: You Are > A Situationship.....	19
3: The New Begins with A Plan.....	25
4: The Fight for Freedom.....	29
5: Forming Does Not Equate to Prospering.....	33
6: They That W.A.I.T.....	37
7: New Rules Loose or Free.....	43
8: Assess and Self Invest.....	49
9: The Instruction.....	53
10: Freeing of Myself.....	57

PURPOSE PAUSE (Day 11)

11: Resuscitated Purpose.....	63
-------------------------------	----

PART II. (Days 12 – 21)

12: The Unwrapping of Purpose.....	71
13: Goodbye to Struggle.....	75
14: The Crisis of Identity.....	79
15: Respect of Time.....	85
16: Focus.....	89
17: Focused Energy.....	95
18: Programmed Focus.....	101
19: Holistic Faith.....	107
20: My by FAITH story.....	115
21: It Is Finished... Yet It Begins.....	125

Affluence Confession.....	131
---------------------------	-----

About the Author.....	133
-----------------------	-----

INTRODUCTION

Romans 12:1-2 (VOICE) “Brothers and sisters, in light of all I have shared with you about God’s mercies, I urge you to offer your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice to God, a sacred offering that brings Him pleasure; this is your reasonable, essential worship. 2 Do not allow this world to mold you in its own image. Instead, be transformed from the inside out by renewing your mind. As a result, you will be able to discern what God wills and whatever God finds good, pleasing, and complete.”

Have you ever found yourself in a place where you have grown weary of contemplating and talking about what should have happened, could have happened, was supposed to have happened, and what you should have started or accomplished at this point in your life? Maybe you have even reached the state of, there must be more to life than this; I halt to assure you of the fact that there is indeed “more”. In reaching these defining moments frustration is introduced to our inward desire for a weightier purpose. Being found in this state or space of life presents not a problem, but rather countless opportunities. Our misidentification of this presentation causes us to hinder our ability to consistently develop the skills or apply the skills necessary to progress beyond the state of stagnation. These stages are usually nurtured by unhealthy

times of isolation and pity parties. I have learned to personalize my pity parties, I call them “Clif parties”; by replacing the word “pity” with my name it requires me to take ownership of my present state by giving it an identity. I would even go a little further to say, me having a “Clif party” and you having a “PLACE NAME HERE party” is not the rootstock of the problem. Understand, there is purpose within the party because it will cause you to face the truth of your lack of character development and maturity. It was at this place that I realized transition was necessary and I decided to tackle this journey.

Today I extend a personal invitation to you, yes you, over the next 21 days we will embark on an adventure of great self-discovery and enlightenment that will be challenging and rewarding. I present the following question; are you up for the challenge? It is not a matter of ability that keeps you stagnate but rather your perception, approach, and your labeling of the challenges (opportunities) before you. Many of us have a negative perception of the words change, challenge and transformation. It is that negative outlook that causes us to psych ourselves out prior to beginning the process. The term “psyching oneself or someone out” means to mentally defeat oneself or another prior to the beginning of what you are about to face. This fact directs us back to today’s scripture which encourages us to be renewed and transformed from

unproductive thoughts that lead to us constantly psyching ourselves out.

**WELCOME TO THE JOURNEY, YOUR LIFE WILL NEVER
BE THE SAME! Confess that, believe that, own that and
watch it manifest in your life.**

PART I.

FROM STAGNATION

TO TRANSFORMATION

Clifton Pettyjohn

DAY 1

FIRST STEP

Gen. 32:24 "And Jacob (CLIF) was left alone; and there wrestled...

Sometimes we never realize how distracted, discouraged, fearful, afraid and unproductive we have become until we are literally "left alone". Many of us wrestle with the very thought of being alone because of our association of loneliness with alone time. Being the introvert that I am, I am always one that enjoys alone time more than being in the crowd. However, there are times when I have my personal battle with loneliness. Be careful of associating loneliness with alone time, for the most part we have all experienced times where we have been in the largest of crowds and yet had an overwhelming feeling of loneliness. Loneliness can lead to unproductive thoughts, actions and addictive behaviors; on the other hand, when we manage alone time properly it becomes a self-discovery intervention. I have learned many valuable lessons during alone times. Alone time that is managed well will afford you the opportunity to become open with God and yourself, that is significant because it allows you to connect with the essence of your creation.

CP || Ventilates: I admonish you to no longer waste alone time

focusing on figuring others out, take those times to improve and evolve as an individual. The reality is we may never understand some people and honestly, they may never understand us, that is the complexity of human behavior. Nevertheless, we can make strides to understand why we make some of the decisions we make, choose some of the people we choose and our overall decision-making philosophy. This will require us to stop viewing ourselves as hopeless and helpless victims of circumstances through exercising victory over the most challenging circumstances.

Today's scripture gives us a glimpse into a portion of Jacob's story. Delegate time to read the story in its entirety. I encourage you over the next 21 days to develop the discipline of reading. I cannot stress enough the importance of reading; reading combats the destructive principles and behaviors that have been ingrained in the bay of our hearts and minds. Genesis chapter 32 addresses the story of an individual that was in search of the essence of himself and his purpose. He had spent his entire life tricking others and found himself running in fear of his life. Although he was on the run he understood that the next day he would be required to face that which he had spent so much time running from. If you are reading this book nine times out of ten you are in a similar state as Jacob. Now you may say Clif I am not a trickster and that may not be the stigma that serves as your altered identity. Nonetheless, there is a label or identity that you are attempting to outrun as oppose to turning, facing and addressing. If you are yet reading I applaud

you because one of the biggest steps you will take, is the first step in a new direction. This step although rewarding will not be void of challenges. Challenges will arise because we never know the depth of our habitual habits until we are goaded by the opportunity to do something unfamiliar. So, kudos to you, I pray for your strength during this revolutionary experience.

As I was saying, Jacob while running did not realize he was running into an encounter that would forever transform his life and the lives of those connected to his loins (the seat of covenant). Today my hope is that you would apply that statement to your current situation with the understanding that this is the day that your identity conjoins with your purpose and because of that union, inheritance is released. Notwithstanding, you must be willing to stop wrestling against the purpose of the process and wrestle for it. By nature, we are all fighters. Now you may disagree nonetheless please understand that there are diverse types of fighters. Some fight physically, while others use their words, actions, or even their body language. Having said that, inevitably we are all fighters we just have different methods of execution. I am not here to tell you to lose your fighting nature I am here to help direct and stimulate that very nature in a more productive manner. Fighting is a necessity, but the question is, is our fight with our allies or the enemy? I guarantee you with many of us because of our perception we are at war against our allies while embracing our enemies. Two of our most effective enemies are

(1) our covenants with the comfortability of our past and (2) our compliance with the status quo. Kowtowing to either will cause us to remain languish; fitting in with the normality of distorted accomplishments and success. Our superior allies reside in the foreign dimensions of purpose. Some of you right now are at a place where the call to purpose is attempting to emancipate you however your fixed theology and psychology are attempting to keep you subjugated to narrow parameters. Know that you embody the fight to break free but are you willing to wrestle until you are victorious? Right now, you may struggle to answer that question but if you remain faithful to the journey you will realize that not only are you willing to wrestle to victory but within the wrestling you will discover the revelation of your identity and purpose.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Clifton Pettyjohn has served as an essential factor in both the religious and education cultures for well over sixteen years and recently he has added influence in the culture of business to his summation. With guided passion, he meshes personal life lessons with practical and biblical principles to teach, train, and transform groups of divergent individuals. His unique skills, personality, delivery, and articulation serve at the foundation of the creation of a welcoming environment to those who are viewed as ne'er-do-wells.

Clifton's view of purpose and life far exceeds the norm, this is expressed through his execution of ministering equity to the total man. It is also comprehensible in his teachings, coaching & consultation sessions, as well as his day to day conversations. He strongly stands on his conviction of urging people to live symmetrically through "wholeness" in all core areas of life.

Clifton currently serves as the president of Clifton M. Pettyjohn Ministries, a prophetic ministry hub, which serves as his personal teaching, preaching, and outreach ministry, out of Kent County Delaware where he resides. He is also the Chief Executive Officer, Purpose Strategist and Coach at Clifton Pettyjohn & Associates, LLC, a wealth and affluence consulting

and coaching company that specializes in private, corporate, and ministerial ventilation through consultation and coaching.

CP || Ventilates: "I accredit my disposition and devotion to excellence in ministry, education, business, and overall life to my former spiritual leaders who taught me that in all things remain humble and true to God & to myself by honoring God through my faithful commitment to the purpose of God in my life."

CONTACT THE AUTHOR

Administrative Office: (302) 648-5544

Electronic Mail: cpventilates@gmail.com

Website: www.cliftonpettyjohn.com