



Big Idea

Everyone of us was created by God for a special purpose, that only we can fulfill. If we don't do what God created us to do, it will not get done! Each of us, is the answer to someone else's prayer. The devil tries to keep us from fulfilling our mission here on earth by reminding us of our past, giving us a spirit of complacency or making us afraid to step out. We must know and believe who God says we are. We have to stay the course and act on the things God puts on our hearts.

Hebrews 12:1 "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

- **Trapped in the Past:** So often when we are about to embark on great things for Christ, that voice in our head reminds us of our weaknesses. It whispers our failures and points out why we could never accomplish much – especially not for God. The Bible tells us, though, that God is already at work in us! He breaks the chains that bind us to the past and we are made NEW in Him. He can use our past failures as building stones for something truly beautiful that can witness to the world around us. When we obey God's call, He can work in super natural ways to do things we could never do in our own power.
- **Complacency with Today:** Settling and accepting the way things are never brings about change. Rather, complacency in our lives kills our personal growth. Growth happens out of being stretched, pressure, even trials. It isn't always comfortable, but it is absolutely necessary. Challenging ourselves to be a voice for God in our communities, government, and world is not for the faint of heart... but when we live our lives by principles rather than pressure, we allow our faith to be stretched – to grow. It *feels* uncomfortable. It *feels* scary... but feelings are the enemy of faith.
- **Being Afraid of Tomorrow:** Since we know that God does not give us a spirit of fear, we know that fear of pursuing our passions (our holy discontentment) is Satan trying to hold us back from doing God's work not only in our own lives but in the lives of others. Our lives are not our own but are supposed to be lived in a way that blesses others for the glory of God. When we live out our faith, we impact the lives of people around us. We were created by God to change other peoples' destiny!

Discussion Questions

- What has God asked you to step out to do?
- Are you living safe or living by faith?
- What holds you back from stepping out in faith to pursue your call? Trapped by your past, Complacency, Fear?
- How can you be sure you are pursuing God's call on your life?

Next Steps

- Share prayer request and make it a point to let the person know you are praying for them throughout the week.
- Remind yourself of what the Bible (God) says about who you are and what we were created to do.

Pray

- Pray for opportunities and courage to step out in faith.
- Pray for protection from a spirit of fear, complacency and negative thoughts.
- Thank God for choosing you and ask for daily guidance to serve Him well.