

Description

The Open Heaven 18 May 2025 devotional for today is CREATED FOR A PURPOSE.

This is a daily devotion written by Pastor E. A. Adeboye, General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG).

• Read: RCCG Open Heaven 17 May 2025 Devotional

OPEN HEAVEN 18 MAY 2025 TODAY DEVOTIONAL

TOPIC: CREATED FOR A PURPOSE

MEMORISE

Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it. Isaiah 46:11

READ: Ephesians 1:9-12

- 9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:
- 10 That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:
- 11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

RCCG OPEN HEAVEN 18 MAY 2025 TODAY MESSAGE

If a boy who was sent on an urgent and important errand by his parents stops to play football on the way, how do you think his parents will feel when they discover his foolishness? This is similar to what many people do concerning God's assignment for their lives. God has sent everyone on earth to fulfil a purpose. However, many people put God's purpose aside and start doing whatever they like.

Before your birth, God prepared an assignment for you to fulfil on the earth. Everyone created by God has a purpose (Ephesians 2:10), and God has a general plan into which His specific purpose for your life fits.

In Galatians 1:13-16, Paul said that God separated him unto Himself from his mother's womb. By the end of his life, He said, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:" (2 Timothy 4:7). John the Baptist knew that God sent him ahead of Jesus to prepare a way for Him and announce His arrival to the Israelites (John 1:29-36).

When Jesus came to him, he declared, "...Behold the lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world" (John 1:29). Because he did his assignment very well, Jesus gave this testimonial about him: "... Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist:" (Matthew 11:11). What will God's testimonial about you be? You have a particular assignment on earth, and you must not let anything prevent you from fulfilling it.

Determine not to allow anything stop you from becoming who God has ordained you to be.

While it is commendable for someone to know God's purpose, it is also necessary for that fellow to fulfil God's purpose God's way. For example, Moses was destined to deliver the Israelites from Egypt, but he first attempted to do it his own way, and it almost cost him his life. God had to put him through a refining process that eventually set him on the right path (Exodus 2:11-15).

Beloved, God has a special purpose for your life, and He also has the blueprint you must follow to fulfil it. This is why you cannot afford not to have an intimate relationship with Him.

Your relationship with Him will determine whether you will keep in step with Him to fulfil His purpose for your life or not. I pray that nothing will distract you from fulfilling God's purpose for your life, in Jesus' name.

ACTION POINT

Cultivate and maintain an intimate relationship with God so you can fulfil His purpose for your life.

BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

Ezra 1-4

RCCG HYMN 32: TO THE WORK! TO THE WORK! WE ARE SERVANTS OF GOD

OPEN HEAVEN DEVOTIONAL 18 MAY 2025 COMMENTARY

Memorise: Isaiah 46:11 (KJV)

This verse establishes God's sovereign ability to orchestrate events and people to fulfill His divine plans.

Bible Reading: Ephesians 1:9-12 (KJV)

This passage reveals that believers are **predestined according to God's purpose** (v.11), called to live **to the praise of His glory** (v.12).

Exposition of Key Themes from Today's Open Heavens Devotional

1. The Universality of Divine Assignment

- Every Believer's Mandate:
 - Created for good works (Ephesians 2:10)
 - Chosen before foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4)
 - Equipped with unique gifts (Romans 12:6-8)
- Biblical Examples:
 - Paul: Apostle to Gentiles (Galatians 1:15-16)
 - o John the Baptist: Forerunner of Christ (John 1:23)
 - Moses: Deliverer of Israel (Exodus 3:10)

2. The Danger of Distraction

- The Football Analogy Explained:
 - o Many treat life's purpose like the distracted errand boy:
 - 1. Prioritizing pleasure over mission
 - 2. Procrastinating divine assignments
 - 3. Pursuing self-glory rather than God's will
- Consequences Seen in Scripture:
 - Jonah's delay caused storm (Jonah 1:4)

- Samson's compromise cost him strength (Judges 16:20)
- Demas' worldliness abandoned ministry (2 Timothy 4:10)

3. Characteristics of Purposeful Living

1. Divine Awareness

John knew his role as "voice in wilderness" (John 1:23)

2. Focused Execution

o Paul's singular vision: "this one thing I do" (Philippians 3:13)

3. Obedient Methodology

Moses learned God's way > man's way (Exodus 3:10-12)

4. Finishing Strong

Christ's declaration: "It is finished" (John 19:30)

4. The Cost of Fulfilling Destiny

Refining Process Required:

- Moses' 40-year desert preparation (Exodus 3:1)
- Joseph's pit-to-prison journey (Genesis 39:20)
- Jesus' 30-year hidden life (Luke 3:23)

Modern Application:

God uses:

- Delays to build patience
- o Trials to strengthen faith
- Opposition to purify motives

5. Maintaining Divine Connection

Why Intimacy Matters:

- 1. Reveals the blueprint (Psalm 32:8)
- 2. Sustains during trials (Isaiah 40:31)
- 3. Corrects when straying (Psalm 139:23-24)

• Practical Disciplines:

- Daily Scripture meditation (Joshua 1:8)
- Persistent prayer (1 Thessalonians 5:17)
- Accountable fellowship (Hebrews 10:25)

Life Applications

For the Distracted:

- Action: Conduct a "time audit" what percentage goes toward eternal purposes?
- Prayer: "Lord, reorder my priorities to align with Your will."

For the Uncertain:

- Study: Romans 12:1-2 how transformation reveals God's will
- Exercise: List your spiritual gifts and passions where do they intersect needs?

For the Weary:

- *Meditate:* On Galatians 6:9 promise for those who don't give up
- Encouragement: Your present struggle is part of the preparation process

Warning vs. Promise

- Warning: "Neglecting purpose invites divine discipline" (Jonah 1-4)
- Promise: "Faithfulness brings commendation" (Matthew 25:21)

Conclusion: Finishing Your Assigned Race

- 1. Your life has eternal significance designed by God before birth
- 2. **Distractions are costly** stay focused on the heavenly mandate
- 3. Divine help is available through prayer and Scripture

Prayer Response

"Heavenly Father, awaken me to the sacredness of my earthly assignment. Deliver me from trivial pursuits. Grant me Paul's focus, John the Baptist's clarity, and Christ's obedience. Let my life fulfill Your exact purpose for Your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Final Charge

"On judgment day, will you present completed divine assignments or unfinished earthly amusements?" Your purpose awaits – pursue it relentlessly!

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