





**What NOW?**  
Navigating the Maze of Transition, Trials and Change



# Readiness

*Living By Design*

Sunday, March 7, 2010



**What NOW?**  
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## Nuggets for Navigating

- RESOURCES - (Gotta make that money)
- RELATIONSHIPS - (Life's most complex maze)
- READINESS - (Prepared for the future)
- REVELATION - (Who told you so?)
- RIDDLES - (Life's unanswerable questions)
- REVERENCE - (Love and Respect)
- RESULTS - (Living with my choices)
- REPAIRS - (...for broken places)



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- The slide features a header with the text "What NOW?" in a large, bold, white font, with the subtitle "Navigating the Maze of Transition, Trials and Change" in a smaller font below it. The background is a light gray with a faint, large-scale maze pattern. The main content consists of four bullet points, each starting with a bolded phrase followed by a sentence or two of text.
- **Lord, I pray that the Word, today, would find good soil in my heart.**
  - **I reject the thoughts of offense!** Where the light of Your Word exposes my mistakes, I do not take offense. I will change and turn to You, my heavenly Father.
  - **I reject condemnation!** Your Word says, *"That Jesus did not come to condemn people."* This Word does not come to condemn me, but it comes to heal me.
  - **I reject accusation!** Satan is the accuser of brothers and sisters and this Word does not come to accuse me or abuse me. This Word exposes satan and his lies and I choose to believe and receive the TRUTH.

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God says in His Word, “...blessed *are* my eyes for they see, and my ears for they hear; for many prophets and righteous *men* desired to see what I see, and did not see *it*, and to hear what I hear, and did not hear *it*. (Matthew 13:16)

***Therefore I will hide Your Word in my heart that I might not sin against (or miss) the will of God.***  
(Psalm 119:11-12)

**Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your Word today.** (Psalm 119:16-18)

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## Proverbs 1

- 1 The proverbs of Solomon the son of David, king of Israel:
- 2 To know wisdom and instruction,  
To perceive the words of understanding,
- 3 To receive the instruction of wisdom,  
Justice, judgment, and equity;
- 4 To give prudence to the simple,  
To the young man knowledge and discretion—

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## Proverbs 1

5 A wise *man* will hear and increase learning,  
And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel,  
6 To understand a proverb and an enigma,  
The words of the wise and their riddles.  
7 The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge,  
*But* fools despise wisdom and instruction.  
8 My son, hear the instruction of your father,  
And do not forsake the law of your mother;  
9 For they *will be* a graceful ornament on your head,  
And chains about your neck.

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## Proverbs 1

20 Wisdom calls aloud outside; She raises her voice in the  
open squares.  
21 She cries out in the chief concourses At the openings of  
the gates in the city She speaks her words:  
22 “ How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity? For  
scorners delight in their scorning, And fools hate  
knowledge.  
23 Turn at my rebuke; Surely I will pour out my spirit on you;  
I will make my words known to you.  
24 Because I have called and you refused,  
I have stretched out my hand and no one regarded,

## Proverbs 1

- 25 Because you disdained all my counsel,  
And would have none of my rebuke,  
26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when  
your terror comes,  
27 When your terror comes like a storm, And your  
destruction comes like a whirlwind, When distress  
and anguish come upon you.  
28 “ Then they will call on me, but I will not answer;  
They will seek me diligently, but they will not find  
me.  
29 Because they hated knowledge  
And did not choose the fear of the LORD,

## Proverbs 1

- 30 They would have none of my counsel *And* despised  
my every rebuke.  
31 Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way,  
And be filled to the full with their own fancies.  
32 For the turning away of the simple will slay them,  
And the complacency of fools will destroy them;  
33 But whoever listens to me will dwell safely,  
And will be secure, without fear of evil.”



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## Definitions

- **Prudence:** *to have understanding, it is practical wisdom, having wise management of your affairs. It suggests quickness of apprehension, the penetrating consideration that precedes action.*
- **Simple:** *naïve, unsuspecting*
- **Knowledge:** *education, frame-of-reference, teaching*
- **Discretion:** *perception, tact, and courtesy “to have understanding”*



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## Proverb 1:4 (*paraphrased*)

- This proverb was written to give practical wisdom and the ability to wisely manage your affairs. Wisdom gives someone who is naïve and unsuspecting the ability to consider one's actions. It provides for the young man (or woman) an education and a frame of reference for navigating through life with perception and tact.



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## Living By God's Design

### All Dressed Up and Nowhere to Go


- **Seasons of Preparation**
  - Preparation of your mind
  - Preparation of your heart



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## Living By God's Design

- God's designs are much more than just **what we will do** with our life. His designs involve working on **WHO we will be.**



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## Life is a marathon

- Moses tried to get started at 40. It did not happen until he was 80.
- Joseph was dreaming at 17, but they did not come true until he was 30.
- Jesus Christ was fired up at 12, but he didn't start his ministry until He was 30.



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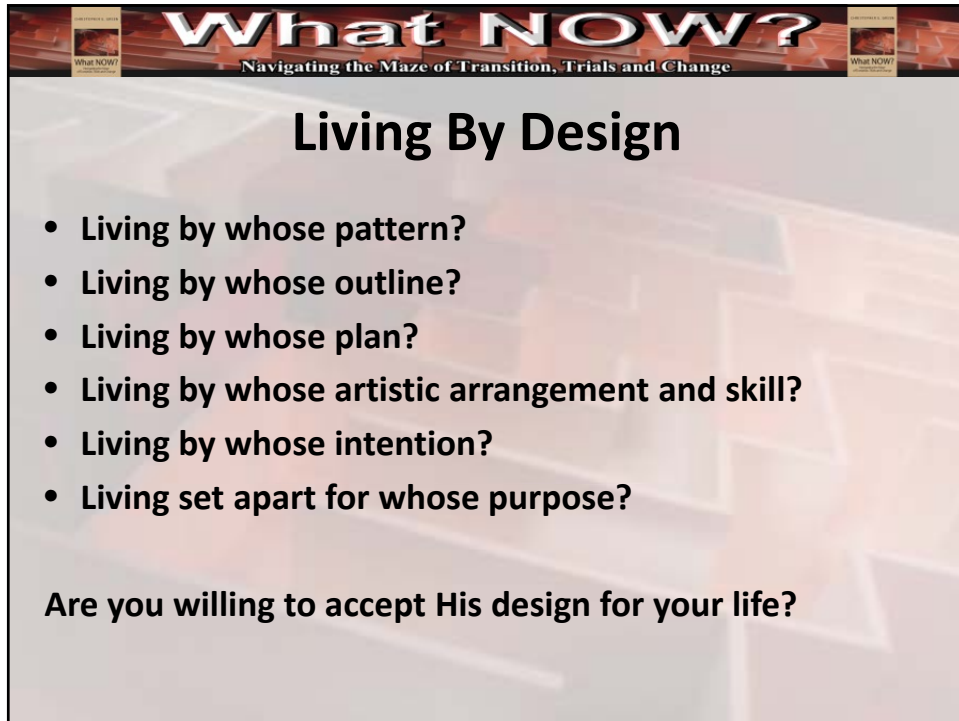
## Living by Design

- in order for you to be *ready for life*
- you must live with intent and purpose.

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## Design

- 1) To make preliminary sketches of, to sketch a pattern or outline
- 2) To plan or carry out by artistic arrangement or in a skilled way
- 3) To form plans in the mind
- 4) To plan to do, purpose, to intend
- 5) To set apart for some purpose



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## Living By Design

- Living by whose pattern?
- Living by whose outline?
- Living by whose plan?
- Living by whose artistic arrangement and skill?
- Living by whose intention?
- Living set apart for whose purpose?

Are you willing to accept His design for your life?



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## Living By Design

*A manufacturer lets the product's intended use govern the design. - Dr. Myles Munroe - The Pursuit of Purpose.*

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## What does God want you to be when you grow up?

- What is God's intended use for you?
- It is directly connected to His designs for your life.

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## Plans

Proverbs 16:

- 1 *The plans of the heart belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord.*
- 9 *A man's heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps."*

***The preparation of the heart belongs to man.***

## Giving God a clean slate

*Jeremiah 4:2 - for thus says the Lord to the men of Judah and Jerusalem: "Break up your fallow ground, And do not sow among thorns."*

Mark 4:

- ***"Listen! Behold, a sower went out to sow (designs). And it happened, as he sowed, that some (designs) fell by the wayside; and the birds of the air came and devoured it. Some (designs) fell on stony ground, where it did not have much earth; and immediately it sprang up because it had no depth of earth. But when the sun was up it was scorched, and because it had no root it withered away.***
- ***And some (designs) fell among thorns; and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no crop. But other (designs) fell on good ground and yielded a crop that sprang up, increased and produced: some thirty-fold, some sixty and some a hundred. And He said to them, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" \****

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## Education and training are a part of your preparation

- G.E.D. (*The equivalent of a high school diploma*)
- Community college, university
- Continuing Education Certificates
- Trade school - Technical school
- Bible college (courses)
- Workshops and seminars
- Training through your employer


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## The perfect material for God

- 1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
- 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

Genesis 1: 1-2






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## The perfect material for God

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- 2 He was with God in the beginning.
- 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

John 1: 1-3



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## Get your G.E.D. (God's Eternal Design)

- The shortest distance between two points

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## God's Promise

Jeremiah 29:10-12 (NIV)

- 10** This is what the LORD says: "When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my gracious promise to bring you back to this place.
- 11** For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.
- 12** Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.

## Readiness

