

You can be thriving wherever You ARE

How to be happy and be the best wherever you may be, knowing God will not allow you go through any challenges without a great purpose for you. Your interruptions are your opportunity to receive a miracle. Pas and song leader not getting along

How to – thrive where you are

Too many living **negative** – depressive – angry - **in life** – becous – **don't like** where they are

Don't like job – where **live**

– **peo** – hard to get along – got to work **late** – **sour** as can be

Where they **live** – get stuck in **traffic**

– all upset - sour

Always trying to get **somewhere** else – be **something** else

If got mate – spouse – edu – econ – rich – country – more just –

Fact is – gospel impacted – **Rom** - bef

Oh – if I got a **mate** – spouse more understanding

- **edu** – **econ** good – **rich** uncle – **country** run more justly - Rom

The good news touched entire Roman world bef – Rome make Christianity – state religion

Despite – restrictions – thrive!

Infact – state reli – everything favourable for ch – see lost fire

Well **under** the circum – just survive

God calls you to **thrive** not just to survive

Good news - Don't have to wait for the **perf** condition bef you - **thrive**

1. Be happy wherever you are

Ecclesiastes 6:9

It is better to be satisfied with what you have than to be always wanting something else. It is useless; it is like chasing the wind. JY

As long as – **sour** – not getting my way – **nothing** will happen

If you want see change – new door – key to be **happy** where you are

Job 9:27

27 I will **forget** my complaint, I will **change** my expression, and **smile**.

How did Job overcome his misery?

1 Prob: **ingrown** – me and my prob **Empty** vessel – **Doddy** Osteen – **Fred** – in pain – continue to minister - healed

2 God is more interested in **changing me** – than in circum

Cornie Ong – testimony

2000 – sick in Africa – brought back to Spore – found cancer – liver – 2 months to live

Prepared – 2 verses – John 11- Psa 118 17

Husb – did cry – but not give in to depression – poor thing – instead – give me coffee

Sympathy – cannot heal

Went back

Airport – collapsed – row down the rump

Awake – did we make the right choice

Teach sun sch – preach – 1 ½ hr – van

– preach – back – throwing out all time

Sicker and sicker – husb strength – kept her going

March 2001 – ch – worship – crawl to altar – felt fire – still – same – plateau

Holy Spirit: always felt unworthy → full healing

If normally, you don't have a heart to serve, it will be hard for you to serve in a challenging time – which may be the key to your breakthrough

If normal time, you have a wrong mind set (always feeling unworthy –

not receiving grace) – you will have difficulty receiving grace in tough times – always feeling unworthy

3. Smile – be **good** – even if they not good

Some - **solemn** serious – allow burden to **weigh** you down

Enduring life – not enjoying

Mother Theresa – vows: chastity, poverty, obedience - one more vow – smile

– hope – to the hopeless - see Jesus in the face of the poorest of the poor

1 Samuel 2:1

Don't **feel** – smile anyway– **fake** it until you can make it – **hypo**

smile by faith – faith pleases – attract attn – response

Proud of him – Mic – what are you waiting for – go – bring blessings

If **waiting** all prob go away bef happy – wait lifetime – content – whatever condition

Phil 4:11-13

11 Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to get along happily whether I have much or little. TLB

But I am **uncomfortable** – peo not treating me right –

Ps 37:23-24

23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD, And He delights in his way. 24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down; For the LORD upholds him with His hand. NKJV

Ordered God not **allow** challenge – unless **purpose**

Things don't just happened to us, it happened for us.

What happen if God remove the challenging situation prematurely?

God will always use it for **our good** **Nasty** guy – put there for you – sand paper

God using him to grow you up

Difficult people – like sand paper to rub off the rough edges off us

God is using him to **prepare** you for something great

If God **removed** them – you will not be **prepared** – what he has in stored

But so often – **fighting** everything that does not go our way

Always trying to **get somewhere else** to be happy – **house** - friends

House too sm – friends so disappointing

Have the right **att**

What we don't **like**, instead of complaining - **know**

– I may not like this – but I know – palm of your hand – you not allow it – if you cant get good out of it

This is **where** God has me right now – – I am going to be **HAPPY**

Ps 67:5-6

5 Let the peoples praise You, O God; Let all the peoples praise You. 6 Then the earth shall yield her increase; God, our own God, shall bless us. NKJV

Praise - **productive** and enjoy

2. Be the best right where you are even when you don't like it

Sometimes, reason **not happy** – not getting our **way** – ask to do thing we don't **want** to do – think more **quali** – not **exciting** – they **don't know** what they doing

May be think more qualified – not exciting enough

They don't know what

Remember he is **paying** us – may not agree – think do it **better** ano way

Ecclesiastes 8:2

Obey the king as you have vowed to do. Don't always be trying to get out of doing your duty, even when it's unpleasant. TLB

1 Peter 2:18

Servants, be submissive to your masters with all fear, not only to the good and gentle, but also to the harsh. NKJV

What should be the attitude even when we don't like what we are doing?

Nothing wrong we asking God to **change** a situation

– until that happen – believe you are where you are **suppose** to be

be the best and do the best

Daniel Ong – give me coffee

Release faith – pamper – draw faith

1 Peter 2:19

19 For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God.

Psa 75:3,6

Though the earth shakes and all its people live in turmoil, yet its foundations are firm, for I have set them in place! For promotions and power do not come from the east, not the west, but from God. He decides who will be lifted up and ... JY

David found his destiny - faithful

Boss – hard to get along with – praying 3 years – realise – God is in control – allow – pass the test –

Honor – tho don't agree - God will make a change or open a new door Not dread going to office – becos somebody irritate you

Learning to be **good** to peop – not good at you – so **next** time

Next time – met tight guy – smile at him – thank him – for everything he done for me

Help pick him off the ground

Good att - **big** enough to **sub**

17 yrs – big concert – didn't want

– upset – about to quit – time to go – search heart – know suppose to stay

my father's vision – right to do what he wants

Be **best** - had he **not** been **faithful**

– not honour submit

– not do the right – when don't feel like it – not be what he is today

As long as negative – nothing will change

Crow – crowing all time – not singing

– tearing one ano – fighting back – lost joy

Always fighting – prove **right** – set record straight – more fight - more allow peo steal joy – you yourself suffer

Chicken – always flapping and never gets off ground

– show off - show – **who** – **you know**

You don't have to prove who you are – you know who you are – child of the most high God

How do you know you are a man?

Born a man!

Turkey – noise – murmuring - always – end up – table

- ends up on dinner table - **robbed**

Not a ... **eagle** – rise – **don't have to prove**

Face adversity – spread wing – catch the thermal wind – enable – rise higher – where no other birds can come

Happy in spite of what some body is Sometimes, we have to make a **stand** – but even – God – turn good

I am not a crow – watch – what you do – stuck in traffic

Traffic – got to work late – not treat right

Stuck in traffic – this is not where I want to be – but this is where God **allows** me – **relax** stay in peace

Got to work late – not frust – where God **has put** me – be **happy**

If someone not treating me right – just **sand** paper - not let sour my day – steal my joy

This is where God **has me** for this season – **rise** above – **happy**

You may not have the **perf** condition – job - make up **mind** – happy

You don't know how miserable –

I can't wait till God opens up something new
Release faith – I have the **power** to enjoy this job

3. Be expecting even when your life is interrupted

How – exp – great plan – thot much – failed, didn't work,
Door closed – God always – another door – not close

David – great plan – better – ano do it Still have the glory – preparing material

Many of miracles – Jesus – **performed** - when interrupted

Luke 18:35-36

35 As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. 36 When he heard the crowd going by, he asked what was happening. (from New International Version)

Way to **Jericho** – blind man cried out

– Jesus have mercy – stop what doing – rebuked – quiet – Jesus stop

Willing to be **inconvenient** to help other peo

Mark 5:21-23

21 When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. 22 Then one of the synagogue rulers, named Jairus, came there. Seeing Jesus, he fell at his feet 23 and pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." (from New International Version)

In **Galilee** – big rally – one pas –

Jairus – little girl dying – come – so Jesus went

Don't you see – big meeting

Wedding – Canaan – enjoying the dinner

Mother – prob – ran out of wine – Jesus didn't have att – leave me alone – having dinner

– first miracle – interrupted

John 11:5-6

5 Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. 6 Yet when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days.

Story **Lazarus** – very sick – send message to Jesus

– good friends w Jesus – didn't show

Imagine – couldn't see Jesus –

disappointed – thot Jesus has

forgotten best of friends

John 11:32

32 When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

What should our attitude be when we are interrupted in our schedule or delayed?

Sometimes, looks like **too late** – if only been here sooner

They praying **healing** - Jesus – in mind something **bigger** - **ress**

–you show – exceedingly

Ephesians 3:20

20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.

– exceedingly abundantly above and beyond

Incon – **interruption** – **delays** – not necessary evil

opport to see miracles

Don't see ... – as **setbacks** – **throne** - God always **greater** plan

Reason for every **closed** door –

reason a **promise** **not** yet come to pass

God's desire is not just – bring **thru** – come out **better**

Young lady – driving home after ch – tyre punctured

Delayed – inconvenient – happened a young man drive by – never met bef

– stop change – today happily married – many yrs – thank God everyday for flat tyre, interruption

Paul Crouch – Trinity – largest

Christian TV network - years ago –

85 – 7 - 92

70's 80's -only a few cable stations
– 85 - law changed drop for
sports and entertainment –
prayed – lobbied – greatest
attack – laws passed – lost 80%
viewers – value drop a fraction of
bef

Seems like **dream died** – God is
up to something **big** – **did the
best**

Year after year – Paul kept doing
what called to do – buying
stations after stations - going
cheap – purchased hundred –
reduced price

7 yrs – 1992 - laws – changed –
value inc 10 times – placed on
hundreds of cable sys –
coverage and value inc – 10
times – at first so disappointed -
God can – why – so long

It would take billions of US dollars
to purchase those stations today
Prayed – believed – nothing seems
going your way – just becos you
dont see anything happening – not
mean

May look like your **greatest attack**
– if **stay** in faith – **happy** - be in
your **best** in day – one day you look
back and see how God used that for
your greatest oport

Story – **70's** – climbing – repair
mirror – fall – broke his jaw

Sent to hospital – found not just a
broken jaw – so happened Doc-
neck arteries – 98% clogged –
walking time bomb - – deal with
the clog – had a serious stroke
anytime

Had not interrupted – not know
danger

Every set back – not enemy –
mistake – every disappoint – not
an acci

Even – a fall – somehow some
way – God use to your adv
Car punctured – unfavourable laws
– a broken jaw

Looks like setbacks – great oport

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