

EMEKA ANSLEM

BECOMING
EXCLUSIVELY
PRODUCTIVE

KEYS TO AN EVER-FRUITFUL LIFESTYLE

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JUST BEFORE WE BEGIN...

Never mind, let's begin!

**WARNING!!! THE
NEXT PAGE
CONTAINS A
QUESTION THAT
NEEDS AN ANSWER**

If you lose a job or a major source of income, and out my desire to see you succeed at all cost, I decided to give you nine hundred dollars to start up something, do you presently sustain an ability that can double the money in one month?

If that question was challenging,
then you should read this book till
the end. But if it wasn't, then just
read this book - till the end.

A person is said to be productive if he sustains an ability to produce result, any result. However, that's not our focus in this book, I want to show you how to become exclusively productive - especially as it relates to finances.

LET ME TAKE A MOMENT TO TALK ABOUT MONEY AND WEALTH...

I read a book by Tim Redmond titled ***"Power to Create"***, and I consider many of the insights he shared worthy of note.

From his perspective, wealth is a response. It's how you respond to people and situations in your life. It is also how you respond to problems and opportunities. Poverty is also a response. Wealth responds from the

perspective of abundance, while poverty reacts from a mindset of security.

Wealth is a creative process. It's all about creating value and serving others with that value.

"In the beginning God created". That's the pattern we are to follow each time we're faced with a challenge. It should be our first thought and response. If God created us in His image, then we should considerably respond to challenges as He would. In the beginning of our day, we are commissioned to create, not react. In the beginning of a project, a challenge, or even an adverse relationship, our first point of consideration should be to create solutions rather than being intimidated or walking away.

Complains never solve any problem; in fact, the more you complain, the longer you stay in that challenge. God saw that the earth was without form and empty, but instead of complaining, He engaged His creative ability and created a solution. Honestly, as a believer, what do you do when you're faced with dire situations? Moses and the people of Israel complained when they were faced with the Red Sea - unknowing to them that they already possessed something that could create a path for them in the sea. God expects us to engage our creative ability at all times; the bible admonishes that there's no problem that comes to man that is void of a solution. If that's the case, why wouldn't you face it?

Never let your net worth determine your self-worth. Getting more stuff is never the answer, adding more value is. In the kingdom, wealth focuses on seeing the needs of other people and meeting those needs in creative ways. Whether it is designing buildings, teaching students, providing services, selling products, or changing diapers - all of these activities create value. Even worship is a creative act. Anything that adds value to a person is a creative act. True wealth is more about creating value for others than it is accumulating resources. Once people receive true value from you, they naturally release money to you. Profit naturally follows impact.

Remember that we're seed of Abraham. Have you ever considered what a seed is? A seed is like a purpose packet; once unleashed, it begins to rearrange the environment around

it in order to bring it to a more valuable function. Seeds take advantage of dirt, water, and sunlight to create delectable fruits or crops. This is illustrative of the potential to create solutions. A seed is unlimited in its very nature, and that's how you should be.

Giving is more than what you do with money. It is a whole lifestyle in which you see a need and decide to meet it. We can move from scarcity into abundance by meeting the needs of others - using our creative abilities.

The Hebrew word for money is connected with the concept of uniqueness. Money in the Hebrew language means the palm of your hand and the soles of your feet. In the Jewish mind, hands and feet are the instruments of wealth creation. Something of value is

created with our hands and then transported to the people who need it by using our feet. God imprints a unique mark on these instruments of wealth in each person; no two fingerprints are ever the same. When you see poverty, whether it is spiritual, emotional, or physical, God has designed and assigned you to bring His abundance to that place to transform it, not conform to it. In fact, it shouldn't surprise you if you find yourself in an impoverished society, you have the ability to transform it.

Shortages are usually tied to a lack of creativity, limited competency, and corrupt leadership. But the reason why many people are poor isn't always because there is shortage of resources, but rather a shortage of creativity in managing the available resources. When I begin to talk about

exclusive productivity, you'd discover that even a notebook and a pen is enough resources to help you command wealth. Abundance flows from creatively interacting with resources that are usually right within arm's reach. You don't command wealth by what you don't have, but by what you have. This also means you can't hold the government responsible for your financial status.

**THAT SAID, NOW LET'S TALK ABOUT
EXCLUSIVE PRODUCTIVITY, ESPECIALLY AS IT
RELATES TO BREAKING THROUGH FINANCIAL
CRISIS...**

To be exclusively productive means to sustain an ability to produce results that are unique to you.

During the time of Daniel, there were people who could also interpret dreams and dissolve complex mysteries, but there was something unique about him that wasn't available to anyone else. And for that reason, he was relevant to several kings. No matter who became king, they always sought after Daniel, even if they didn't know him. Let's see how the bible puts it:

Daniel 5:

11. There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him; whom the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, I say, thy father, made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers.

12. Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and shewing of hard sentences, and dissolving of doubts, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar: now let Daniel be called, and he will shew the interpretation.

Did you notice verse 11? "In the days of your father...". In other words, they were not able to find a replacement for the kind of result Daniel commanded. And if that was the case, they had to call for his service. When you become exclusively productive, people will call for you. If they've not started calling, then it's probably because they have replacements for you.

Joseph had a similar experience. He could also interpret dreams. The bible tells us how he interpreted the dreams of two palace servants and the interpretations he gave were valid. On a certain day, Pharaoh had a dream, and none of the magicians could interpret the dream. Just while they continued their search for a unique interpreter, the palace servant who was spared remember how Joseph interpreted his dream few years before that time. The moment the king heard about Joseph, he sent for him. The amazing thing about Joseph's case is that he was in the prison. People who are exclusively productive don't remain in the prison or in hiding, their uniqueness would bring them out and reward them. Let's read the account of Joseph:

Genesis 41:

9. Then spake the chief butler unto Pharaoh, saying, I do remember my faults this day:

10. Pharaoh was wroth with his servants, and put me in ward in the captain of the guard's house, both me and the chief baker:

11. And we dreamed a dream in one night, I and he; we dreamed each man according to the interpretation of his dream.

12. And there was there with us a young man, an Hebrew, servant to the captain of the guard; and we told him, and he interpreted to us our dreams; to each man according to his dream he did interpret.

13. And it came to pass, as he interpreted to us, so it was; me he restored unto mine office, and him he hanged.

14. Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon: and he shaved himself, and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh.

Did you notice verse 14? His uniqueness was greater than his sentence. They may have

sentenced him to prison, but the moment his uniqueness was required, they had to let him go. Even Potiphar, the man who sentenced him, had to agree.

The challenge with most people is that they just want a quick fix to everything, so they do nothing about being unique. The world is a highly competitive market, and only those who would go in directions that others won't dare stand a chance.

Our uniqueness is formed when we're able to invest in what is available to get what is desired and obtainable.

I heard a story about a lady who was broke and didn't have any means to make ends meet. God opened her eyes and she began to

collect waste bottles only to resell them. Of course, she had buyers. Though the proceeds were very minute, but as she continued, she was able to save up more money to fund her schooling, set up a business and lived a comfortable life. Today, she's doing what she desired, and that's because she positively interacted with what was available.

A certain man completed his Master's Degree program and hoped that he'd immediately secure employment. But unfortunately, things didn't go as planned. Things became really tough that he could barely provide for his family. He bought a shoe brush and polish, and began to clean up dirty shoes for people. Though the proceed was small, but he was able to save up to buy a wheelbarrow. So he graduated from a shoe shiner to a truck pusher; he hauled goods for market women.

When he's leaving home in the morning, he'd dress in a nice suit - like someone who was doing a corporate job, but when he gets to the market, he'd change into a more appealing wear for a truck pusher. After a while, he saw an opening for a Security Guard in a bank inside the market. Of course, he applied and got the job. Shortly after, the bank posted a vacancy for a senior accountant - which was what he studied in school. He quickly changed to his suit and went in for the interview. As God would have it, he was the only qualified candidate. All the while, they didn't even know that he was their "Security man", they only got to know the moment he got the job.

It was Bishop David Abioye who said ***"before you find what you like, do what you find"***.

During the time of consistent black out in Nigeria, a certain man lost his job and couldn't find another opportunity to earn a living. He did all he could but all to no avail. Someone told him about a productivity summit which he reluctantly attended. After the summit, he began to think differently. While on an evening stroll around his neighborhood, he got inspired by the number of traders that sold candles. Since all of them would need to travel to the market to buy candles for resale, he volunteered to go to the market on their behalf – even with a subsidized transport fee. He ensured that each of those traders gained fifty percent of what they used to spend on transportation. Of course, they agreed. Since he was buying in large quantities, he got huge discounts and free delivery to his residence. So he made profit from the transport fare and the discount. It wasn't long before he established

his own candle manufacturing company. While many people are coerced into believing that they can't start a business without capital, this man did. Hallelujah!

I read a story about a woman whose husband left with three children. She was in dire need and had very little hope for survival. She lived in a small Costa Rican village where the signs of economic ruin appeared everywhere in that area. Businesses in that area ran at a slow pace, there were job shortages, young people were forced to move out of the village in search of a better life. For those who remained in that village, the only assurance they had was that they were going to fail. She went to church one day and met her pastor preaching on the parable of the talents. The pastor was determined to wake up the God-given abilities of his church and

community. He wanted the people to begin to create solutions in spite of the devastating economic times they were experiencing in that region of the world. As a skilled and anointed communicator, the pastor focused on motivating the people to apply what they heard. He concluded his sermon with the most unusual call to action. He stepped down from the platform and reached into his pocket and pulled out some money. Then he began to walk toward a few people in his small congregation. As he approached them, he handed them a few dollars and told them to use their God-given talent to double the money. When he got to where this woman was sitting, he said, ***"Use your gift to double this money"***. She complained that she didn't have any gift. But the pastor insisted that she ought to have a gift. At this point, she felt humiliated and screamed that she didn't have anything worthwhile and that the only thing

she knew how to do was to make pancake for her children. The moment the pastor heard that, he advised her to take the money, buy some recipes for pancake, bake and take them to the market square to sell the next morning. Of course, she initially resisted, but she obeyed. To her amazement, she sold all her pancakes in no time. Her pastor advised her to invest the proceeds into making more pancakes, and she did. That's how she began a business. Over time, she added more items to her menu and gained new customers in the village. She opened a catering service that grew to be the most successful catering company in the region. Her influence grew beyond her church and village. Her approach to growing her business became contagious that she sparked up an economic revolution in her village and the entire region. Within months, the entire city started to turn around economically. The pastor's church also

exploded with growth. From a small village church to a 4000 seat auditorium. The transformation that took place in that city was so dramatic that it caught the attention of the president of the nation. It wasn't long before the president consulted the woman to implement whatever she did in her city in the entire nation. That's how a woman who her husband left became a force to be reckoned with.

Honestly, we don't tie our productivity to the things we don't have, but the things we have.

I like the story of Ree Drummond. She grew up in a golf course and enjoyed country club life. She studied journalism and later went to law school. Her plan was to have a big city career, but unfortunately she fell in love with

a rugged cow boy. They got married and she had to relocate to a big ranch within Oklahoma. Her dreams of the big city life seemed impossible, but instead of feeling stuck in the middle of nowhere, she made the best of it. Though the circumstance had changed, but her love for writing and taking pictures never waned. She combined the two skills and directed her passion towards creating a blog about the amazing life she had been given. By changing her perspective, a whole new world opened up to her. Instead of longing for a life she would not have, she invited the people to her unusual world. Presently, she has over 4 million unique visitors a month in her ranch, she hosts her own TV show, she's a New York Times best-selling author, and she generates a million dollar a year in advertising alone.

God frowns at our lack of productivity and creativity. This is displayed in the parable of the talents. Let's read how the bible puts it:

Matthew 25:

14. For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

15. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

16. Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

17. And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

18. But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

19. After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

20. And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.

21. His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

22. He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

23. His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

24. Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an

hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:

25. And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

26. His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

27. Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

Verses 14 and 15 tells us that he gave them talents according to their several abilities. God would often give us favours according to our several abilities. For instance, if all you can do is make shoes, then don't expect God to give you favours that isn't shoe related. This also means that if God cannot find anybody that wants to make shoes, you may

become financially challenged. On the other hand, if you're a pro and irreplaceable at what you do, then you're sure to always get customers.

You'd also notice that those who didn't have any ability didn't get any talent. If you don't have any ability, how do you suggest that God would bless you? God will only bless the works of your hand. If you want God to bless you, then create something that your hands can work on.

Notice verse 27, the master expressed regret that the servant would have put the money in the bank so that it would generate interest. What are you doing with the gifts that God has given to you? What do you do with the favours God directs towards you? God is

investment-conscious; He expects that you'd creatively interact with everything He gives to you to generate profit.

TO BE EXCLUSIVELY PRODUCTIVE, DO THE FOLLOWING EXERCISE:

1. IDENTIFY A PROBLEM OR A GOAL

At this point, identify what it is that is hindering your productivity or profitability. And if you don't have a challenge, then identify a goal you'd like to reach.

For Ree Drummond, despite the fact that she lost the opportunity to become a journalist, she still desired to be a public figure.

For me, my goal is to propagate applicable knowledge to people across the globe.

For the pancake lady, she wanted to have more money to take care of her children.

Please do not move to the next point until you've noted yours.

2. IDENTIFY YOUR STRENGTH

The word "*strength*" is a combination of your *gifts, the things you love, and the skills you have.*

Draw a quick table similar to the one below, and list all your gifts in the first column, all the things you love in the second column,

then the skills you have in the third column. I've added mine to the table.

GIFTS	LOVES	SKILLS
Teaching	Teaching	Speaking
Analyzing	Thinking	Writing
Singing	Good food	Graphic Designing
Cooking	Good music	System Administration

3. CONNECT RELATED GIFTS, LOVES AND SKILLS AND DETERMINE WHICH ONE BEST RESOLVES THE PROBLEM

Remember the problem you stated in Number 1? Now we have to do some connections.

GIFTS	LOVES	SKILLS
Teaching	Teaching	Speaking
Analyzing	Thinking	Writing
Singing	Good food	Graphic Designing
Cooking	Good music	System Administration

The goal I stated in Number 1 is to propagate applicable knowledge to people, and after connecting my gifts, loves and skills, I believe *Public Speaking* is the strenght I need to accomplish this task.

For Ree Drummond, she loved photography, she was skillful at taking photos, and she was

a gifted writer. So she concluding that being a blogger would do a great deal for her.

But here’s something you should consider; what if the strenght you chose doesn’t deliver up to your expectation?

Very few people know me as a public speaker, and that’s because I appear more as a writer. When I discovered that I wasn’t getting as much opportunity to express myself through public speaking, I engaged my writing skill.

GIFTS	LOVES	SKILLS
Teaching	Teaching	Speaking
Analyzing	Thinking	Writing
Singing	Good food	Graphic

		Designing
Cooking	Good music	System Administration

At this point, instead portraying myself as a public speaker, I simply call myself a teacher or a life coach.

**4. ENGAGE THE STRENGHT YOU’VE
DISCOVERED TO SERVICE NEEDS, EVEN IF IT’S
FOR FREE**

One of my popular quotes is, *“Trade your gift for free until it begins to attract a fee”*. I wrote for free for over 5 years before I finally made profit from it.

Create platforms where people can feel your strenght and connect with you. The best way

to earn in the 21st century is to care. A wise man had said that, “People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care”. Mark Zuckerberg would be proud of me, because I’ve been writing on Facebook since the year 2012. If you compile all the articles on my wall into books, they should be over 200 books by now. Amazingly, I only started writing books in the year 2017.

I’ve authored over 40 e-books, of which 37 of them are free. Recently, someone called from China and said that he visited my website and read two of my free books and that he was going to make payment for the ones that had a price tag on them. Today, people are willing to pay for my products and services, only because I’ve proven my credibility.

Don't get me wrong, this ideology may not apply to your strenght. You may find out something that needs immediate and consistent funding. Unlike me, all I needed was Facebook, a phone, and internet data. But whatever the case may be, start small and always remember to care for the people.

5. DEVELOP THE STRENGHT YOU'VE DISCOVERED UNTIL IT'S ABLE TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM

Engaging in service will certainly aid the development of the strenght you found, however, consciously apply for advanced programs that would grant you some level of professionalism.


Personally, I didn't participate in any writing course, it's just a gift that has been developed

by use. However, if my goal is to someday write for presidents and other dignitaries, then I must go for professional courses.

Have a vision of where you want to go and submit to the developmental demands that will get you there.

I TRUST YOU'VE BEEN BLESSED BY THIS BOOK.
PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT ME IF
YOU NEED ANY FORM OF COUNSEL. AND YES,
I LOOK FORWARD TO READING YOUR
TESTIMONIES. CONGRATULATIONS!

- PUTTING GRACE UNDER PRESSURE
- HOW TO RECEIVE YOUR DESIRED
MIRACLE
 - COLOR IN WILDERNESS
 - THE BAIL OUT PLAN
 - WHERE ARE THE YOUTHS?
- HE BLESSES OUR BREAD AND WATER
 - WHERE THERE IS NO VISION
 - FOCUS
 - ACADEMIC DRIVE
- LEARN HOW TO FIND YOUR PURPOSE
 - MOTIVATING RIGHT EDUCATION
 - THE TIME IS NOT ENOUGH
 - A NEW CONFIDENCE
 - INTO THE DEEP
 - OVERCOMING DEPRESSION
- TIMELY NOTES 30-DAY DEVOTIONAL
- I COULDN'T FIND A SILVER SPOON
 - ANSLEM'S FAITH BOOK
- NOW THAT YOU'VE BEEN
ENTHRONED
 - THE GREAT ADVANTAGE



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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Emeka Anslem is the 'privileged' writer of Timely Notes Daily Devotional, Founder of In-spired Writers Training School, and President of The Solutionists. He's an ICT Expert who studied Microsoft Certified System Engineering (MCSE) with National Institute of Information Technology before he moved to Lagos State Polytechnic for a Computer Science course. Having lived in Lagos all his life, though from an origin in Delta State, he has developed a sound relational skill in Yoruba language.

He received a divine call to be a teacher in April 2013, with an assignment to "Add value to lives by bringing knowledge to the people". By God's grace, he has committed his life to that assignment, and he's always willing to add value to lives.

Through his passion for his assignment, he's been privileged to author over 30 e-books, which are downloadable for free at the E-BOOKS section of his website (www.emekaanslem.com.ng). His rare teaching gift has attracted several public speaking engagements in seminars, conferences and the likes. Considering his track record in writing, God inspired him to convene a yearly writers conference, which has been a medium of transformation for many writers.

He also runs a documentation business, where he operates as a ghost writer. He has written for great men within and outside the country; and with the permission of his clients, he can show you some of his finished works (books).

