

8 Steps to Achieve Your Destiny: Lead Your life with Purpose

Niko K. Williams

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Beulah Heights University

Professor Chris Bowen

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The popular childhood game Simon-says is all about following directions. The ability to listen and respond accordingly, gives you a great chance of being crowned the winner. Just like the game Simon-says, the game of life has rules, principles and steps, that if followed correctly can lead us to fulfill our winning destiny. Destiny is defined as: “a predetermined course of events by which a person or thing is destined” (Merriam-Webster online dictionary, n.d.). This essay will discuss Chapters One through Five of the book: “*8 Steps to Achieve Your Destiny: Live Your Life with Purpose*” by Samuel R. Chand.

In Chapter One, New People, Chand encourages leaders to identify new people to help in achieving their next level. New people are stronger, wiser and have a keen intuition for organizational changes, improvements and needs. They help to uncover what is, and is not working. According to Chand, “All leaders need new people in their lives. The people who get you where you are now, may not be the ones who will take you where you need to be” (p. 20). New people bring innovation, fresh perspectives and cutting edge ideas, with an unbiased perspective. The challenge is learning how to engage with new people and disengage from the old. It maybe painful, but purposeful, and should be handled with grace.

In Chapter Two, New Pains, Chand discusses how authentic change, invites pain. As we are in pursuit of our destiny, pain is inevitable. There are three types of pain: Internal, External, and Organizational. Internal pain deals with personal inadequacies, lack of competence and confidence, as well as, the inability to release the familiar, and embrace the new. External pain comes from an ever changing culture, lost of control over issues and situations, and fellow competitors. Organizational conflict, difficult decision-making, staff-related issues, and making “de-

cisions with higher stakes” (Chand, 2016, p. 56, para. 4), all play a part in Organizational Pain. Embracing pain as a friend, makes your life easier.

In Chapter Three, venturing into New Places, is necessary. “Remaining in the same place brings mediocrity” (Chand, 2016, p. 66, para 3). Mediocrity brings on a state of ordinariness, stagnation and lack of inspiration. In order to journey to new places, a leader must “develop a vision of his destination, disengage with activities and people not headed in that direction, and connect with people who are at his desired destination” (Chand, 2016, p. 67, para. 1). According to Chand (2016), “Having the flexibility to make midcourse corrections and shift lanes is an important part of reaching your destination” (p. 74). Journeying to new places moves you from being stagnant on land, to an ever flowing and moving sea. God’s expectation is for us to walk in the unfamiliar. Wherever he leads, we should be obedient and committed to follow.

In Chapter Four, New Perspectives, discusses how “new perspectives and ideas birth’s a demand for products and services” (Chand, 2016, p. 82, para. 2). “Getting new perspectives requires forcing ourselves to think in new ways” (Chand, 2016, p. 82). Chand (2016) says, “When searching for new perspectives, the place to find it is in other people” and to “give smart people in your life sincere permission to speak into your life” (Chand, 2016, p. 89, para 1). We develop our perspective from six origins: Family, Friends, Foes, Education, Culture and Ancient Wisdom. Ten tools to help gain new perspectives: Ask the “Peter Drucker” questions, regularly evaluate what you offer, offer who you are not what you do, rectify yourself each year, commit to a personal development plan, focus on personal disciplines, remember that the learners outdistance the learned, be content to be a work in progress, enjoy the journey and at the end of everyday focus on what you learned, how you grew and what you’ll do differently tomorrow.

Lastly, in Chapter 5, New Priorities, Chand states, “Knowing your priorities simplifies your decision-making” (2016). Strength, momentum and energy is gained, when focusing on only a few essential priorities, opposed to be a jack of all trades. According to Drucker (as cited in Chand, 2016), “Diversification destroys the performance capacity of an organization” (p. 105). To help gain a concentrated focus-ness ask the following questions: What are my priorities? How should I implement these priorities and How can I effectively communicate my priorities to my organizations? Plan for transitioning from old priorities to new ones with the greatest of care and wisdom. One of the best ways to get individuals engaged with a new visions or new priorities is through vision casting. Effective vision casting requires: keeping it simple, making it memorable, maintaining a stable vision, and patience.

In review, new people bring innovation, fresh perspectives, and cutting edge ideas with an unbiased perspective. They help to uncover what is, and is not working. As we are in pursuit of our destiny, pain is inevitable. Embracing and making friends with your pain , makes your life easier. Venturing into new places, is necessary. Journeying to new places moves you from being stagnant on land, to an ever flowing and changing sea. “Getting new perspectives requires forcing ourselves to think in new ways” (Chand, 2016, p.82). We develop our perspective from six origins: Family, Friends, Foes, Education, Culture and Ancient Wisdom. Strength, momentum, and energy is gained, when focusing on only a few essential priorities. One of the best ways to get individuals engaged with a new vision or new priorities, is through vision casting. Effective vision casting requires: keeping it simple, making it memorable, maintaining a stable vision, and patience.

References

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