

*Living Life God's Way*

# Life Strategy Journal



# *Living Life God's Way* **Life Strategy Journal**

## **Instructions:**

To transform the *Living Life God's Way* teachings into lasting lifestyle change, we ask you to commit to keeping a Life Strategy Journal. Please note that this is not “homework” in the traditional sense in that you will not turn it in and it will not be graded. However, we encourage you to take full advantage of the contents herein and in developing the habit of journaling both in the context of this series and as a life practice. These are your private notes and we encourage you to write openly and honestly before the Lord.

### **Consider the best journaling method for you. Here are some ideas:**

- Print out this Life Strategy Journal and use it to hand-write both your answers to the printed questions and your daily journal entries. You are welcome to expand upon your journal by printing out extra Daily Journal Entry pages.
- Write in a separate journal or notebook. You can buy one specifically for this purpose or add to one you already use.
- Create a digital journal using your favorite word-processing software such as Word, Pages, or Google docs.
- Download a journaling app on your smart phone, tablet, or laptop. There are numerous free and paid options; online reviews can help you choose which features are most important to you.
- It is beneficial to be able to access your journal throughout your day to record what God is speaking to you, to look up something you'd like to share with a friend, or for adding notes while listening to a teaching or sermon. If going digital, consider cross-platform choices such as Google Docs or apps where you can view and edit from multiple devices for on-the-go journaling and reference.

### **Your daily journal entries may include but are not limited to:**

- The date and time
- Situations and issues you are praying about
- New insights and truths you are working on
- Notes on the direction you are receiving from the Lord
- Teaching notes and Scripture references

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**Introduction: Inheriting God's Heart**

**Spiritual truth to be mastered:** We were created by God to inherit His heart and rule with Him over His creation which He calls the Kingdom of God.

**Some ultimate issues raised by addressing our situations:**

1. Why should I live?

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2. What should I expect from life?

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3. How much control do I really have?

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In answering these questions, we will be endeavoring, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to equip you to not just “hear a good word” but put your faith into action. “The Kingdom of God is not a matter of talk, but of power” ([1 Corinthians 4:20](#)). The tools or skills needed can be identified by these related questions:

4. What is my mission?

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5. What skills do I need to please God and live strategically, thereby fulfilling my earthly mission?

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6. How do I practice and use those skills?

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**Why did God create me?** The answer is because He loved the thought of you. He loved the notion of you sharing in His life with Him and His family. Seeing the love He has moves us and motivates us unlike anything else. Out of this love, He has designed you to inherit His heart.

7. In what ways does this understanding about how God sees me change how I value and view myself?

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8. How will my responses to life change now that I see, apart from any action of my own, His full acceptance and delight in me?

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**Of what benefit is life's pain?**

The benefit of pain in our lives is that it tells us where we really are. Life's pain is like the nervous system in our body. Pain is informative. It is a signal that something is out of order. Pain in life is ultimately the result of the fall of man into sin.

God is not surprised by sin or Satan. God uses His children's battle with the flesh to mature and train them into righteousness. Since we are justified freely by Christ's sacrifice but are still alive in the flesh, we must overcome sin by the transformation of our minds through the Holy Spirit.

9. Since pain is designed to train and strengthen us, how will I respond differently to the pain in my life?

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10. When "that person" who often offends me or "that situation" comes around again, will I first assert my "rights," or will I see the truth?

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11. List an example of a relationship where you are working on handling pain (what you can do differently, points of prayer, etc.).

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12. Will I see God as good even though He has allowed events to occur that go beyond my understanding of "good?" If so, why?

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13. When someone lies about me or hurts me, what will be my response in light of the knowledge that Father wants to train me to rule with Him?

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14. How many times today will I pray that the Holy Spirit will empower me to choose "the way of the Lord?" What will remind me?

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15. How will my co-workers see me living as one who loves truth? What will be the evidence?

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16. How will I train so that these skills become habits? Today? Tomorrow? Next year?

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17. What person that I interact with at least five times per week will hold me accountable in my use of these skills?

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18. Which skills will I pray about in my quiet time with the Lord tomorrow morning?

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19. How will I show \_\_\_\_\_ that I am committed to serving them and laying down my life for them?

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20. What will I do today to begin preparing to pass on the inheritance I have received to the next generation?

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21. How will I overcome feelings of inadequacy in light of this task?

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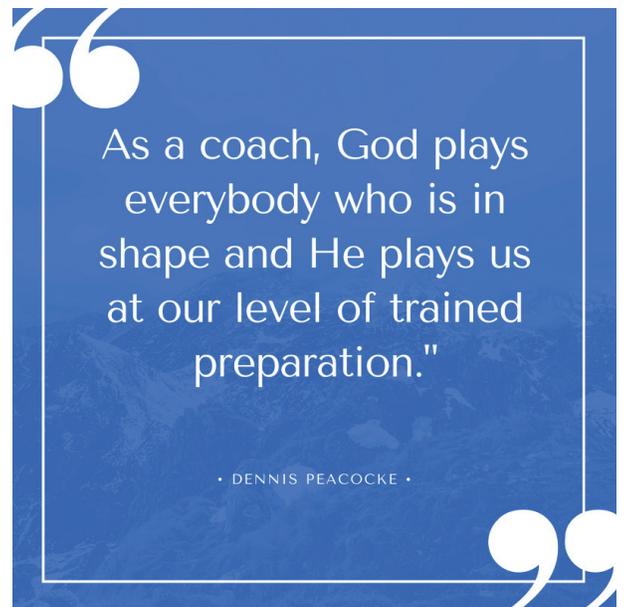
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**Chapter One: Choosing Life Every Day**

**Spiritual truth to be mastered:** Recognizing and rejecting death while practicing the art of choosing life and truth.

1. How will I choose life at work tomorrow?

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2. In what previous situation(s) have I chosen death instead of life?

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3. Since I have the power to choose life all the time and I must practice choosing correctly, what will be my strategy for training?

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4. How do you hope to respond to everyday disappointments in life?

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**Chapter Two: Using God's Choices to Fulfill My Destiny**

**Spiritual truth to be mastered:** The constant affirmation of God's work in my life and the use of every situation and relationship to grow and please God.

I will accept myself because God does. I will also show that I accept others in the same love Jesus has for me.

1. If God has my best interest at heart, why do I become so anxious when I don't understand my circumstances?

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2. Am I finding fault with God concerning any events in the past 5 years, 10 years, or lifetime?

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3. If God really is dwelling in my daily circumstances, what will remind me to think in terms of a day that He strategically designed in which to train me?

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4. Name two significant life events that you blamed on someone else. Can you see these events as parts of God's plan to shape and mold you into the image of Christ? Why do you think He allowed these events?

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**Chapter Three: Planting Crops of Life and Blessing**

**Spiritual truth to be mastered:** Planning daily, monthly, and yearly with God concerning the relationships He wants me to sow into and the character qualities/projects He wants me to produce in my life and the lives of others.

**How do I practice this truth daily?**

Use the following sections to write about goals and planning for yourself, your spouse, your children, other committed relationships, your ministries at church and work, and responsibilities to your community and nation:

**SELF:**

My "never-again" list:

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Life and project goals list:

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Overall strategic planning - plans for each specific goal:

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**SPOUSE:**

Life and project goals list:

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Overall strategic planning - plans for each specific goal:

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**CHILDREN:**

Life and project goals list:

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Overall strategic planning - plans for each specific goal:

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**COMMITTED RELATIONSHIPS:**

Life and project goals list:

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Overall strategic planning - plans for each specific goal:

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**MINISTRY AT CHURCH:**

Life and project goals list:

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Overall strategic planning - plans for each specific goal:

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**MINISTRY AT WORK:**

Life and project goals list:

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Overall strategic planning - plans for each specific goal:

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**RESPONSIBILITIES TO YOUR COMMUNITY AND NATION:**

Life and project goals list:

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Overall strategic planning - plans for each specific goal:

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## **Sowing & Reaping**

Welcome to the world of strategic thinking and the power of strategic living!

This kind of living is LIFE. The questions become:

1. To what thoughts am I giving energy? To what attitudes am I giving energy?

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2. What kind of crops do I, or should I, expect from these seeds?

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3. Into what relationships am I sowing and why?

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4. Into what character qualities am I sowing and why?

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5. Into what projects am I sowing and why?

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6. What current negative crops are bearing fruit in my life?

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7. What must I do to stop them?

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8. What truths must I begin practicing in order to plant long-term crops of blessing in the heart of God, others, and my own life?

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**Step One: The Seed**

- Thoughts
- Words
- Energy
- Actions

**Step Two: The Crop**

- Results

**Step Three: My Reaction to the Crop/Results**

**LIFE:**

- Reality
- Responsibility
- Repentance
- Restitution
- "Never-Again" List

**DEATH:**

- Denial
- Anger
- Blame
- Repetition



9. Examine the crops you are planting and have planted. List the destructive seeds you have planted and commit yourself this day to stop sowing them.

Thoughts towards yourself:

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Thoughts towards your church:

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Thoughts towards your spouse:

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Thoughts towards your parents:

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Thoughts towards your vocation (your ministry):

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10. Ask the Lord what He would have you do about these crops. Write down His response and plan a time frame for implementation.

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11. Ask God to show you how to pray over your good crops! Write down His answer.

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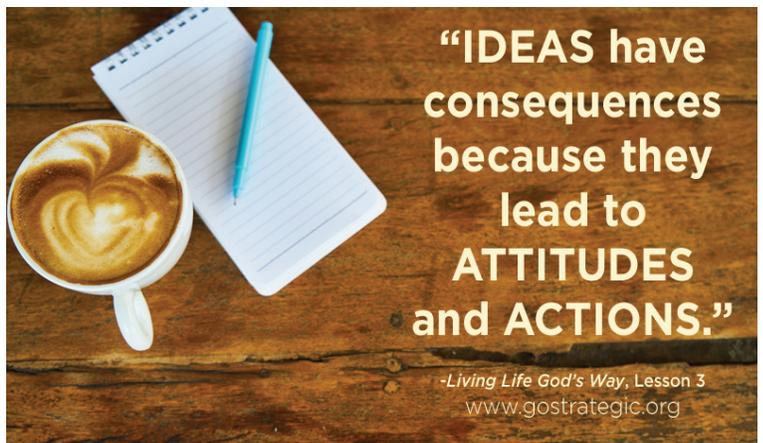
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**Chapter Four: Refusing Bitterness & the Mental Movies**

**Spiritual truth to be mastered:** Constant rejection of accusation and bitterness against self or others and the release of people to God after we have fulfilled our biblical obligations to them.

1. How many people am I going to forgive today? Who are they? When will I tell them I have freed them from the bitterness jail?

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2. Since I have no legitimate right to bash someone with my words, how will I monitor my language? How much of Jesus' language will I memorize this week?

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3. What movies will I stop from "showing?"

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4. Whom have I been trying to "fix" and why?

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5. How much time in a day do I spend asking God about whom I should try to help?

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6. Recognizing the pain I cause when I don't seek God's counsel in my decisions, what Scripture verse will I memorize to ensure I keep my way pure?

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### Dealing with Destructive Conflict in My Life

"I am committed to forgiving and accepting or rendering restitution to those who have hurt me and to myself for others I have injured. I release my vengeance to God."

7. I am currently engaged in "destruction derbies" with the following people:

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8. I fight a desire for vengeance over the following situations from my past:

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9. I fight watching the "mental movies" over these situations:

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## Chapter Five: Life is Designed to Make You a Ruler

**Spiritual truth to be mastered:** Recognizing that God has called us to both rule and judge upon the earth as we obey God, gain His perspective, and reject the fear of man.

As we exercise faithful rulership and it expands on the earth, we are preparing ourselves and others for God's next phase in His plan for man. Earth is our training ground. It is plain to see that the desire to "escape" or "fly away to glory" is in direct contradiction to the purpose God has for us in the earth.

1. How have you seen this mentality played out in your life or in the lives of your parents?

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2. Read Matthew 18:15-18, I Peter 4:19, and I Corinthians 6:1-5 and write down 10 things God shows you concerning how you relate to other Christians:

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3. What routine is God showing me in the Word to train on concerning my role in judging the world?

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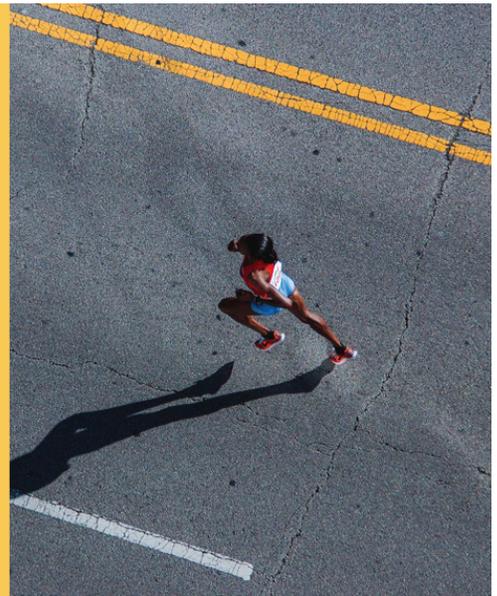
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**“God is not  
after our  
comfort;  
He’s after  
our growth.”**

*-Living Life God's Way, Lesson 5*  
[www.gostrategic.org](http://www.gostrategic.org)









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**Chapter Six: Using the Coaches God Has Given to Me**

**Spiritual truth to be mastered:** Grateful recognition of God's commitment to take us to levels of excellence and opportunity we could never reach without others' help.

**Examining the coaches in my life:**

1. What projects in your life today are important enough to require good coaches around you?

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2. What confessions do you make that set you up for failure?

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3. What significant problems have you had in life? List three or four, then write, "conquered me" or "conquered it" next to each one.

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4. Make a list of men and women in the Bible who were blessed or suffered based on the how they responded to God's coaches for them.

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5. Make a list of the major goals you have set in your life. Keep them in prayer daily concerning the coaches God would bring into your life to help you achieve those goals.

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6. Make a list of the “injuries” you’re working on and the new strengths you’re developing because of them.

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7. List character attributes you are working on and the principles and progress you are learning and making.

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8. Whom do you think God has placed in your life as a coach?

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9. Whom do you think God is having you coach?

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10. Since you have a responsibility to both your coaches and those you coach, what are you going to do about it in the next week?

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11. Who is my point of accountability? At home? At work? At school?

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12. What am I doing to bring God's government in my house?

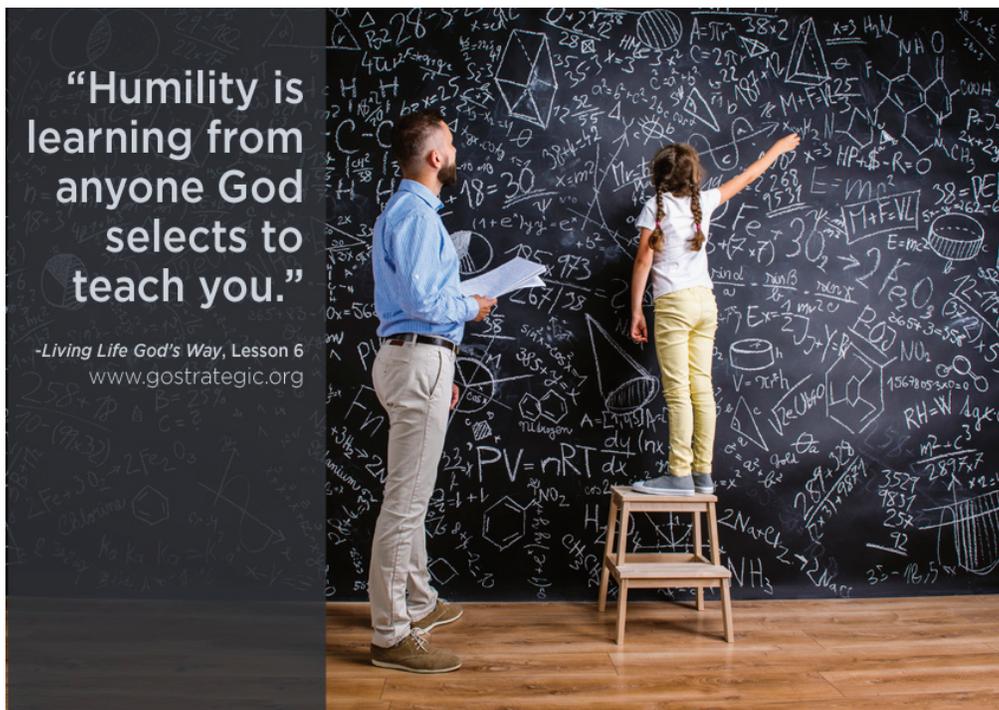
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**Chapter Seven: Living as a King and a Priest**

**Spiritual truth to be mastered:** Practicing daily the same calling that is upon our master Jesus Christ, the Lion-King and Lamb-Priest.

1. Where is the battle in my life? What am I going to do about it?

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2. As I read the Bible, how often do I now see Jesus as a priest and a king?

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3. Am I guilty of trying to escape the pain of life? How will I break that habit?

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4. If Jesus had to deal with "hurts" and He did so successfully, what pattern of speech will I employ to let my family know I intend to succeed like Jesus?

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**Dealing with trauma and warfare:**

5. List three or four traumas you have experienced in life. Underneath each of them, name one new positive “muscle” that grew out of it.

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6. List attributes you want God to put in you to make you a better warrior.

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7. List attributes you want God to put in you to make you a better worshiper.

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8. In what areas of your life do you want God to help you “stick it to Satan” in terms of victory and damage to Satan’s strongholds?

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9. What are you doing to prepare for this?

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10. Give examples of where you “played with pain” and God honored it.

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**Dealing with worship and reason:**

11. What has God allowed to be done in life to you or others that remains a mystery?

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12. Are you worshiping Him or demanding answers? List areas where Satan is trying to grow a “root of bitterness” in you.

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**"Anything that is an obstacle between me and the Father is an assignment that He's given me particularly to deal with. And you've got to deal with your own lions. I'll pray for you, I'll fast for you, but now we're back to the whole thing of teaching your people how to block. If you block for them, they'll never learn. If you cut their cocoon, they'll never grow. If Father rescues us, we will never grow up... We've got so many people betting on a **rescue**. I'm not betting on a rescue. I'm betting on a **coach**. I don't wanna be rescued. I wanna grow up. If you love me, don't rescue me. Grow me up. Cause I wanna fellowship with you! **That's the heart of the lion. That's the heart of the king.**"**

—Dennis Peacocke, *Living Life God's Way*, Lesson 7  
[www.gostrategic.org](http://www.gostrategic.org)





