

Celena Hall

DEV 111

Professor Lucy

A window to purpose

My name is Celena Hall, I graced the world with my presence on March 7th, 2001. I was born in Brooklyn, NY, but I was raised in Jamaica in the care of my grandmother. Growing up was rather challenging as I am the last of 8 children. Due to the age difference between my siblings and me, I felt rather lonely as they are much older than I am. Gradually, once I began to make friends and got in connection with family members, I began to feel less lonely and more comfortable with others. My parents always knew I was special, but it took me a while to truly realize just how special I was. At the age of 3, I did my first rendition of one of Barney's theme songs "I Love You, You Love Me". At that moment, I knew that my gift would begin to germinate. As I got older, I began to walk in my purpose.

Growing up in Jamaica was quite the experience, I was able to experience nature in an extravagant way with the beautiful trees, the variety of flowers, a plethora of fruits and vegetables. When I lived in Jamaica, it was a life-changing occurrence, one I will never forget. Since I was raised in a Christian household, I was always in church. I attended school and participated in a lot of fun activities with my family. I climbed trees, helped cook, raised animals, and even grew fruits in the appropriate season. Being raised in a Christian household has played a role in my understanding and belief in God. Once I got to the age where I could make decisions for myself, I decided to continue on the path of righteousness. My relationship with God has been nothing short of mindblowing, I've also noticed how much I've grown as a young woman of God. Having obtained the knowledge that before the foundations of the Earth were laid, God had entrusted me the gift of singing. Since the seed has been planted long before my existence, I now see the gift being cultivated in my life. At a young age, I never understood my purpose, but once I began to grow in Christ Jesus, He has been ordering my steps in the direction He intends on me trodding on.

Although it took me a while to realize what my purpose was, once God placed the right people in my life, I began to see my purpose being fulfilled. I Bless God every day for choosing me in this

form of ministry. I realized that from kindergarten to the completion of my high school studies, I was always chosen to participate in the school's talent shows. This signifies favor from God because I attended school with some very talented individuals. It also caused me to see that singing plays a vital role in my ministry. Even with all this success, one of the biggest hurdles I had to overcome was not graduating High school when I initially intended. Even with this mishap, I believe that this was all apart of God's divine plan. Having overcome that obstacle by the grace of God, I have accomplished so much thus far. One of the biggest accomplishments was coming back from a traumatic car accident. The accident was very severe as it left some of my friends and I injured and it even caused the death of one of my friends. This experience left me damaged and traumatized as I couldn't even function properly following that accident. By the grace of God and with determination, I was able to overcome my deep fears of being in vehicles and the pain that I suffered physically and mentally. This experience has also caused me to connect deeper with God as I now worship Him without ceasing and it has also birthed a new sense of purpose in my ministry.

God has been the source of my strength and I know that with and through Him, I will be able to walk in my purpose. I know that it won't be easy, but I know the ultimate reward will be great.