

From the Author of *Getting Up Again – Surviving Unemployment and Pursuing Destiny*

## **Pursuing Purpose – Finding Purpose in Life**

**by Philip H. Page, Jr.**

What would you do for free? Seriously, what would you do for 40 hours each week without getting paid for it? The answer to that question is an important one because it is the key to your purpose.

I have read so many books on purpose that it seems like I should know everything there is to know about it. In fact, most of us have read books on purpose, seen movies about it and heard preachers and speakers talk about purpose as the key to life. From this we know that purpose is the reason you were born. We know that, without purpose, there is simply no reason for your existence. But with purpose, you become invaluable to the world and everyone inside.

Yet, with all of the information surrounding purpose, something is still missing. I say this because too many people continue to stumble through life not knowing why they were created or what they were intended to do. They claim to know their purpose but either struggle pursuing it or change it with the seasons. This chaos suggests to me that, with all of the excellent teaching on instruction on purpose, we still don't get it.

Personally, I have tried to uncover my purpose using the same methods businesses use to find their mission. I'm specifically referring to businesses that have existed for a while but seem to be searching, wandering and seeking the real reason they were created. Like

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me, they've seen some success early in life but fail to really break through and embrace the higher level of success that their hearts ache to achieve. Having worked with businesses in this situation, I know that many find success using what I call the "Five Why" method. To do this, you start with what you think your mission could be and then ask, Why? five times. At the end of this chain of questions is your purpose.

It works with people as well as businesses. Suppose you became an accountant because you like numbers. Well that's fine but it's not enough because, on some level, you know that your life's fulfillment isn't in playing with numbers. You need to ask yourself Why do I like to play with numbers? You may then say that you like numbers because they're dependable. What's more, you love dependability and think the lack of dependability is the cure for all of the world's problems. Low and behold, you now realize that you would spend your life making things more dependable. Voila, you've found your purpose.

In the past, I would have stopped here and declared that the journey was over. That is, until I pondered another question. If you want to find out the purpose of something, would you ask the thing or would you ask its maker? Put plainly, if you wanted to know the purpose for a machine, would you ask the machine or would you ask its creator. The answer appears obvious. No matter how advanced or intelligent the machine, the purpose of the machine originates from the mind of the Creator. It's the same with us. In order to find out the deep questions of our existence ("Why was I created?" "What was I born to do?" "Why was I put in this particular time and place?") we need to ask our Creator.

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*Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails.*

Proverbs 19:21

An Empowerment Tool for *Getting the Most Out of Life*  
*The purposes of a man's heart are deep waters, but a man of understanding draws them out.*

Proverbs 20:5

My true purpose was revealed to me after 12 weeks of searching during a class titled “Purity with Purpose”. It began with the typical why classes but then followed up with times of intense prayer and meditation. I took my Why’s to God and asked Him to help me understand. In my relatively short job history, I had worked in multiple disciplines (Sales, Marketing, Customer Service, Technical Support) and in multiple industries (consumer electronics, software, accounting, taxation, food preparation).

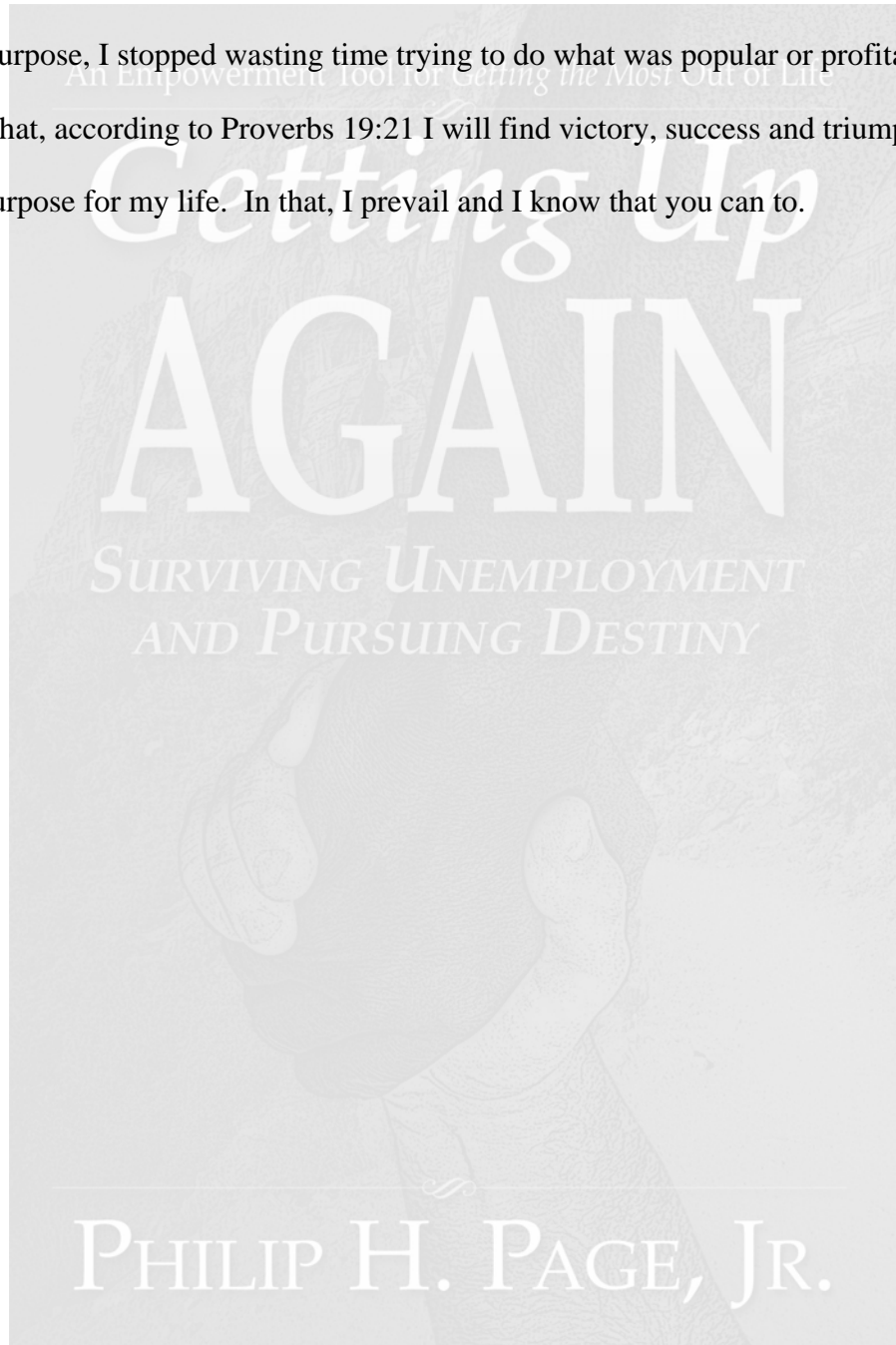
While I could not figure out my adventurous job path, God revealed to me that the consistent thread was “empowerment”. In sales, I took pride in “empowering” my customers with more information than they needed. In technical support, I “empowered” my clients by teaching them to resolve their own issues rather than calling back for help. It was the same wherever I went. God showed me that in every place I worked, He was using me to empower people to prosper. As a result, I now realize that my purpose in life is to “empower people to prosper” and I thrive in doing that everywhere I go.

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My journey is not over. The wonderful thing about my purpose is that God continues to expand my understanding of it and show me new ways to apply it. My hope is that you too will find your unique purpose and live life maximizing it everyday. By seeking and finding purpose, I stopped wasting time trying to do what was popular or profitable. I realized that, according to Proverbs 19:21 I will find victory, success and triumph in the Lord's purpose for my life. In that, I prevail and I know that you can too.



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