

# Going Deeper to Make my Life Count!

## Philippians 3:13-14

13. *My brothers, I do not count myself to have taken possession, but one thing I do, forgetting the things behind and reaching forward to the things before,*

14. *I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*

"Edgar W. Work said:

*"The real disaster is not in being limited to one talent, but in the failure to use that one talent.*

We are not in the World by accident and we are not living in this time by chance either, but we are here today by God's purpose. Everything regarding our history is in God's agenda. So, how do we respond before this great responsibility to make the difference among our generation? This is not the time to be **passive** anymore, accepting things in "packs" already prepared for us, but this is a time to **stand up**, embrace the challenge to change principles, to reshape patterns and consequently make our lives different and leave our "mark" in this generation.

## How to make your life count?

### 1. MAXIMISE WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN YOU

#### Video: I Dare you to Move by Switchfoot

**a. Thomas Edison**, an American inventor (1847-1931) set himself an ambitious goal: After testing Over 3000 Filaments before he came up with his version of a Practical Light Bulb. Somebody said to him: *"Oh, you failed more than 3.000 times!* But he replied: *"No! I didn't fail 3.000 times; I discovered 3.000 ways not to make a light bulb".*

As shocking as it may seem, this was not his greatest invention."

He died when he was 84 years old and he had 1,093 patents. Edison made his dreams a reality by sticking to what he did best. Are you doing that?

**b. David** was uncountable by the king Saul because he was so young, not an experienced fighter, but he didn't allow it to destroy his faith and his gifts. He said to the king: *"I confronted both, lion and bear and I tore them. Now, I will do the same with this giant".*

#### 1 Samuel 17:33-37

8. And he stood and cried to the armies of Israel, and said to them, Why have you come out to set your battle in order? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants to Saul? **Choose a man for you, and let him come down to me.**

9. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your slaves. But if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our slaves and serve us.

10. And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day. Give me a man, and we will fight together.

11. And Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, and they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

16. And the Philistine drew near **morning and evening**, and presented himself

**forty days.**

26. And David spoke to the men who stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man who kills this Philistine and takes away this shame from Israel? **For who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God?**
32. And David said to Saul, Let no man's heart fail because of him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.
33. Saul replied, "You are not able to go out against this Philistine and fight him; **you are only a boy**, and he has been a fighting man from his youth."
34. But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a **lion or a bear** came and carried off a sheep from the flock,
35. I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, **I seized it by its hair**, struck it and killed it.
36. Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God.
37. **The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."**

- ⊕ Never ignore the things that God gave you
- ⊕ Gift is like a seed, should be watered every day
- ⊕ Develop your skills and fulfil yourself.

#### **Proverbs 3:9-10**

9. Honour the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce.
10. Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.

## **2. START WHERE GOD PUT YOU**

After losing a baseball game, cartoon character Charlie Brown pours out his heart to his friend Lucy: "All my life I've dreamed of pitching in the big leagues, but I'll never make it!" Lucy replies "You're thinking too far ahead, Charlie Brown. Set yourself more immediate goals. Start with the next match, for example. When you go out to the pitch, see if you can kick the ball without falling down."

**Success starts with one step. Exercise your faith and take it.**

**Video: Charlie Brown**

- ⊕ Be grateful for what God has been doing now
- ⊕ Don't deceive yourself with illusions and fantasies
- ⊕ Recognize your limits and race towards victory

#### **1John 5:4**

For everything that has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith.

## **3. FOCUS ON WHAT GOD CALLED YOU TO DO**

Music was every thing to Brahms. He collected music and studied compositions going back to the 15th century. He worked day and night to make his crafts perfect, refusing to publish anything that didn't meet his exacting standards. That's why he didn't publish his first symphony until he was 40.

And he never got married, saying it would distract him: "I am in love with music, I don't think about anything else, only when they make music more beautiful." Is that fanaticism? No, it's what makes your life count! It's why Paul said, "...this one thing I do..."

**Video: Paul Potts singing at X-Factor**

- ⊕ Be relentless, put your whole totally on the things you believe
- ⊕ Never give up on your dreams, God wants to make it reality in your life
- ⊕ Even though the circumstances try to put you out of the track

**Joshua 1:7**

Only be strong and very courageous so that you may be careful to do according to all the Law which My servant Moses commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may act wisely wherever you go.

**...Champions never give up**

**...Believe in yourself and also in the talents that God gave you**

**...Even when no one else believes in you**

**...Never underestimate what is inside of you that makes you special.**