

INTRODUCTION

Let me introduce you to the **30 Day Launch** program for job seekers. It is built on the firm foundation that God's Word is true and His promises are real. When God says that we will receive all that we need and more if we seek the Kingdom first, He means it.

So this is a plan for the first month of your job search. It is designed to focus you on God's top priorities first and then utilize His **Ask, Seek, and Knock** strategy as the foundation for your job search. This is the process I've written about in *The Gospel of Unemployment* so if you want further insights or a more thorough look at this subject you may want to read the book. This training program will introduce you to some of the key ideas presented there and should provide enough for you to effectively prepare for and implement your search for new employment opportunities. The Holy Spirit will take you to the exact spot in the workplace where you can prosper and be a blessing if you will devote the time and energy to learn to this process God's way!

This process is divided into four themes that are described below. It is intended to be used in the order presented with the completion of a single lesson every day. If used in this way, the entire process will take six weeks to complete and will have you actively in the job market by your fourth week. The first two weeks of your search will be spent getting established in your identity in Christ and prepared for the process. In the third week you'll spend time learning all about yourself from God's point of view. Your fourth week will be spent learning about the marketplace and the resources you'll use to find your way around. Finally, weeks five and six will help you put your job search strategy into action.

CHOOSE A KINGDOM JOB SEARCH

For believers, the job search process starts with a clear understanding of our relationship to God and His relationship to our work. To move forward with confidence we must understand that we work for God and we cannot be unemployed. He is and always will be our provider. He gives us our assignments, provides the resources we need, and sees to it we are paid. He owns everything and is in no way limited by the fact that you are temporarily out of the workforce. He has something great for you in this time of unemployment. So, the first two weeks you'll focus on stirring up faith, setting up an office, and getting into His Word to discover what He has in mind for you.

ASK ABOUT GOD'S WILL AND PURPOSES FOR YOU

The "**Ask and it will be given**" phase requires us to get clear about our Kingdom purpose and God's perspective on us as individuals. We have the marvelous opportunity to go the throne room of God and ask our Creator our questions. What was I designed for? What is the best use of my skills and talents? How can I be a great witness for the kingdom? What do you want for me to accomplish while I'm unemployed, Lord? How can I most fully cooperate and align with your perfect will? And, what, if anything, am I carrying in the way of baggage that might hold me back from all that you have planned for me? In this week you'll identify your career focus, write your resume, and discover your marketable skills. This is also the time to let go of the past and to prepare your references.

SEEK OPPORTUNITIES TO BE BLESSED AND BE A BLESSING

The "**Seek and you will find**" phase refers to information gathering and market research. You will learn about the workplace, positions, industries, and employer needs. Hidden opportunities and support resources will be revealed to you. Remember, God has promised

hidden treasures for believers. He will lead you, through divine connections and a still, small voice, to find places where you can be blessed and be a blessing. In this week you'll begin to make employment contacts, research the marketplace, and build your network.

KNOCK WITH BOLDNESS AND EXCELLENCE

"Knock and the door will be opened" is the final phase of the strategy. It guides you to excellence in self-presentation-- from resumes and correspondence to telephone techniques, interviewing skills and follow up activities. Wherever you go you will be able to let your light shine so others will see it and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. The skills you'll develop this week will build your confidence and support you as you go out to interview. You'll review standards of professional dress and presentation and build your skills at responding to common and tough interview questions. Most importantly, you'll practice reliance on God's grace to carry you through the process.

GETTING STARTED

STEP ONE:

Set up your office. While you work from home you need to remember that you are working. The best way to manage your time and all the activities you'll be involved in is to establish a "home office" for yourself, if you don't already have one. You don't need anything fancy...a desk or table with a telephone and good light, a comfortable chair, and an accordion file will get you started. Access to the Internet via a personal computer is ideal but not essential.

The supplies you'll need are pretty basic too. Purchase some paper supplies and pens, some index cards, and a few highlighters. Get a really good Bible. I recommend a parallel version with several translations side-by-side. If you have access to a computer and internet, you could also use Bible Gateway (www.biblegateway.com), an excellent resource that is free and provides all the popular translations at your fingertips. This will make research and studying easy as you follow the teachings of various pastors and use a variety of books in your personal growth process. A good concordance is also essential. Beyond that you'll want a tape or CD player and access to a television so that you can benefit from the wealth of instructional materials available in every area you might need. We are blessed to live in a time when so much Kingdom wisdom is readily available to us!

STEP TWO:

Start every day by "praying the Word". If it isn't your practice already, you'll want to learn how to do this right away! We know that the Word of God is TRUTH. It cannot be otherwise. So if the Word says it, you can count on it. God promises that His word will not return unto Him void. He also promises repeatedly that if we ask according to His will he will give us what we ask for. That's why you'll want to pray the Word. To do this you need to find the promise in the Word that meets your need. Then pray that Word out loud back to God.

For example, "**Lord, your Word says in Philippians 4:19 says that you will meet my needs according to your riches in glory so I thank you now for my rent payment and this week's groceries. You said in Matthew 2:33 that you would "add all (these) things" that I need if I would seek first the Kingdom so here I am, Lord, seeking you and your will and I expect you to fulfill your Word.**"

Throughout this guide you will find scriptures to get you started in each area covered. You can use them as your jumping off point for praying in a way that brings results. God's Word aligns with His Will so you know you're praying in His Will and according to His purposes when you use the Word.

STEP THREE:

Next, establish the habit of “FREE Reading”—a four step method for reading the Word of God in order to fully take it into your heart and allow it to renew your mind.

Find it—Look up scriptures on a given topic or to meet a specific need. The www.biblegateway.com website is a tremendous resource to help you do this. It will allow you to conduct a search on a “key word” and put every popular translation at your fingertips.

Read it—Don’t settle for a quick scan; really read it. Then read it again and look it up in various translations. Milk this Word for all it’s worth.

Examine it – Think about what this scripture has to do with your life. How can you use it and apply it. What would you do differently if this scripture was really true to you? Most importantly, what corresponding action can you take to demonstrate that you agree with this scripture?

Exclaim it! –Speak the truth OUT LOUD. You cannot overdo this. It is your way of alerting all powers and principalities about where you stand. This is the best, maybe the only, way to plant the Word in your heart. So end your reading with some positive statement related to what you have just read. For example, Philippians 4:13: “Thank you God that I am able to do every task that I face this day because I am in Christ and He strengthens me.”

STEP FOUR:

Now, create a weekly schedule that is balanced and focused on productivity. One of the most important things you can do throughout your job search is to establish a written schedule that will provide structure for your day. Doing this, and following through on it, will also give your family members a huge sense of confidence that you are doing what God wants you to be doing at this time.

Create project plans for tasks you can complete during your period of unemployment. Identify those tasks that are fully within your control to complete while you are not working and set up a plan to get them done as quickly as possible! At the end of every day you need to be able to reflect on what you have accomplished.

You can’t control when you’ll get called in for an interview but you absolutely can control whether the garage gets cleaned out and organized. You can see to it that you get some fresh air and exercise for 30 minutes every day on your way to a weight loss goal. You can finally quit smoking! You can take on projects and volunteer assignments that will bless someone else. Go through all the closets and find serviceable clothes to give away. Fix all the minor repairs that have bothered your spouse. Write to people you’ve lost touch with. Set up a schedule to visit elderly and shut in friends. SPECIAL NOTE: Don’t turn the television on during the day, no matter what! And DO NOT waste the valuable time you’ve been given each day by saying that you can’t commit to anything because it might interfere with your job search. Instead establish some boundaries and stick to them.

You may have no outside income, but you still owe God your tithe, so find a way to give away at least 4-5 hours a week to your church if you have no money to give.

1 CHOOSE YOUR KINGDOM

STRATEGY:	Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To understand the difference between God’s Kingdom and the World system.
	Notes:
YOUR TURN:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How do you begin to seek the Kingdom first? Why would the King expect you to study the laws of His Kingdom? Do you expect the Kingdom of Christ to be similar to or different from the kingdom of this world?
APPLICATION:	How can I apply this in my life?
FREE READING:	Matthew 6:28-33 John 8:32
DECLARE THIS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am a citizen in the Kingdom of God. I live by the laws of His Kingdom and I serve His will and purposes only. I am not moved by what I see in the world; I am not part of that kingdom.

1 CHOOSE YOUR KINGDOM

TACTICS:	Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To understand why you are unemployed.• To write the answer to this question.
	Notes:
TAKE ACTION:	
PRAY:	Thank you, God, for... By faith I receive... Help me with...

Comparison: World and Kingdom of God

	World's view	Kingdom's
What is the greatest power?		1 John 4:8, 15-16
How do you succeed?		Romans 12:2
How important are <u>words</u> ?		Proverbs 18:20
Where does direction come from?		Romans 8:14
Who makes the plans for your life?		Isaiah 44:21 Isaiah 45:2,13
How do you get wealth?		Deuteronomy 8:18 Psalm 66:10-12 Isaiah 45:3
How are things made/created?		Hebrews 11:3 John1:1-3
Who rules over all?		Ephesians 1:21-22
What happens when you sin?		1 John 3:9 1 John4:17
How do you get well/healed?		Psalm 91 Psalm 103 Isaiah 53:5
What tells us something is TRUE?		Hebrews 11:1
How important is skill, talent and looks?		1Corinthians 2:1-5 2 Corinthians 12:9-10
What gives us confidence?		Hebrews 4:14-16
How can we guarantee our personal safety?		Psalm 91

Why are you unemployed?

Guidelines:

- 1. Be positive. Present what is good about this transition and what you are looking forward to.**
- 2. Make it simple, clear and direct. Avoid jargon and fancy prose.**
- 3. Keep it brief—no more than 10 sentences. Too much explanation and you'll sound defensive.**
- 4. Give a good reason for the change, avoid clichés. There are many good reasons for changing positions and the truth, presented comfortably and clearly, is the best.**
 - Lay off (when more than one is impacted), downsizing**
 - Reorganization, company relocation, merger, acquisition**
 - Limited opportunity for growth, blocked career path, no promotion from within**
 - Management changes, changes in company direction or philosophy (be prepared to explain it)**
 - Personality conflict, unable to support management decisions**
 - Desire for new challenges, increased responsibility, change in personal direction**
- 5. Practice saying it out loud and get feedback from a trusted professional or colleague.**

Your notes here: