

SIMPLIFY

MAKE ROOM FOR WHAT IS IMPORTANT

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5 January 2025

INTRODUCTION

- When our lives are filled with clutter, we are not free to respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit or the needs of those around us.
- The secret to successful decluttering is having a vision for the life you want to live!
- Excess clutter will waste your time and focus.
- Clutter is the enemy of availability.
- The beginning of the year is a great time to set a goal to simplify and declutter one's life.
- I encourage you to allow the Holy Spirit to highlight the areas in your life that need to be decluttered so that you may make room for what God wants to do in your life.
- Do not approach this as a New Year's resolution or physical discipline.
- You need God's help! Partner with the Holy Spirit.

THE "WHY"?

- Why must I simplify and declutter? The answer is *"to make room for what is important."*
- Clutter suffocates and threatens what is important in your life.
- Example: Just like one needs to get rid of the ashes to keep a fire burning, you also need to get rid of clutter to have your life stoked with fire and passion.
- A plant or tree needs enough room to grow to be healthy and fruitful; the same is true for your life.

THE "HOW"?

- *"Make room!"*
- How will I make room? By *"Simplifying and Decluttering"*
- Definition of *"Declutter"*: *Remove unnecessary items from an untidy or overcrowded place. To simplify or get rid of mess, disorder, complications, etc.*
- As I said before, You need God's help...

Isaiah 10:27 NKJV *It shall come to pass in that day That his burden will be taken away from your shoulder, And his yoke from your neck, And the yoke will be destroyed because of the anointing oil.*

a. What You Must Do.

Every passage of Scripture contains a moral principle. This principle may arise from depicting God's or Christ's character, the good or bad examples set by the characters in the text, or explicit commands, promises, and warnings.

Example: Simplify, De-Clutter: Make room for what is important.

b. Why You Cannot Do It.

It is impossible to do this alone. You need God's power and grace.

- **Colossians 1:11** NLT *We also pray that you will be **strengthened with all his glorious power so you will have all the endurance and patience you need...***
- **2 Timothy 2:1** ESV *You then, my child, be **strengthened by the grace** that is in Christ Jesus...*
- **Romans 5:1-2** ESV *Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also **obtained access by faith into this grace** in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.*
- **Philippians 4:13** ESV *I can do all things **through him who strengthens me.***

Example: Church is full at the beginning of the year, the gym is full at the beginning of the year, and many embark on a new diet at the start of the year. By March, most had quit what they had started. God will help you.

c. How He Did It.

Christ embodies the principle fully.

Example: Jesus impacted His world and the history of man within three and a half years of ministry. He learnt the disciplines of life (Simplicity) as He grew up.

d. How Through Him, You Can Do It.

Christ enables us to live as we are meant to.

Example: When we achieve the goals in our own strength, it will lead to self-righteousness and arrogance - perfectionism - pride-driven.

When we do it with God's help, His power, and His grace, He gets the glory! Excellence, driven by love—because I love you, I do it.

APPLICATION:

- **Illustration:** The Professor and the Container - Firsts, Priorities.
- **Worksheet...**
- **Scriptures...**
- **Prayer & Fasting ...**