

Chapter 1

Pocket Prayer (Where You Are Headed)

Father in heaven, You are the author of the good works that await me in my career. Thank You for forming me, gifting me with unique abilities, and perfectly preparing me over the past years to take on this upcoming chapter in my career journey. I do not know what the future holds, but I know Who holds the future. I commit my career to You from this day forward and lay my hopes and dreams, as well as all my cares and concerns, at your feet. Lead me to opportunities that will allow me to use the gifts You have entrusted to me. May they bless and bring benefit to others. Help me cooperate with You in creating a kingdom career—one that acknowledges Your Son as Lord and furthers Your work here on earth, and eternally. I am Yours. Use me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Chapter 2

Pocket Prayer (Created To Be Called)

Dear Lord, I praise You because You are the same yesterday, today, and forever—never changing, always faithful. Thank you that You still speak to your children today, through Your Word and through Your Spirit. Give me the gift of hunger for You, for You promise that those who hunger and thirst for You will be satisfied and You promise to satisfy with good things. Speak to me today through Your Word. If there is sin that is getting in the way of my hearing You clearly, bring it to mind. Forgive me and correct my course. Thank you that You give wisdom generously to those who ask. Make clear to me the next steps to take, and help me respond by pursuing a career course that will please You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Gracious God, You are the God who calls me by name. You called me out of darkness into Your marvelous light. Just as You called Abraham and his descendants to be Your chosen people, You have called me and chosen me as Your cherished possession. You called me to persevere and not be weary in doing good, promising that in due season I will reap. Thank You for Your calling on my life. Lead me to work that will build Your kingdom. Open my eyes to the new opportunity that You have hand-picked for me. Father, You say that the steps of a righteous man are ordered by the Lord. Show me the next step to take. As I begin to look at the "Master F.I.T." for my life, make clear to me how You have designed and equipped me to do the special works that await me. Help me press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Amen.

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Chapter 3

Pocket Prayer (Your Master F.I.T.)

Heavenly Father, You are the God who reached down from heaven to transport Your children from death to life, from slavery to freedom, from prison to the Promised Land. Thank you for the Promised Land of Your presence, provision, and promises. Thank you that You have "career territory" already carved out for me. Open my eyes to understand how You have gifted me, the interests You have planted in me, and the purposes You have prepared for me. Help me see how You want to weave these Master F.I.T. elements together to be a part of your master plan. Lord, when I face battles on my journey, be my defender and source of strength. I stand on Your promise "the battle is the Lord's." Thank you for loving me and caring about my career. I pray You would bless my career in whatever way You choose, for I know I can trust a God who is able to do immeasurably more than all I ask or imagine. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Chapter 4

Pocket Prayer (Career Decisions)

Father, You are the God of the impossible. Thank you that Your omnipotence is rooted in purposeful love. Increase my faith for what is possible in my career. Help me in my unbelief. Grow my trust in You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Father, you are the Master Creator, the originator of great ideas and grand thoughts. Your ways are higher than my ways and Your thoughts are higher than my thoughts. Thank you for giving me the mind of Christ. Guide my thoughts as I brainstorm new options. Impress on me the ideas and visions You want me to see. Your Word tells me in Jeremiah 33:3 to call on You and You will show me great and mighty things that I do not know. So show me, Father, the great and mighty things that I do not know about the gifts You've given me and how to use them to please You and bless others. And, if there is an idea You have for me that I am resisting, reveal that to me also. Show me how to take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ. Shine a flashlight on the areas that You want me to pursue, and close the doors to areas I should avoid. I commit this journey to you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Chapter 5

Pocket Prayer (Job Search Plan)

Father, in Psalm 139:4 You tell me that You know everything, even before there is a word on my tongue, so thank you for knowing my need. In order to use Your gifts and be a blessing to others, I need help from the types of people listed on my support team worksheet. In the hours and days to come, please make me aware of who they are. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Father in heaven, You are the ultimate planner. Your plans are good, righteous, and just. No plan of Yours can be thwarted. You are the one who determines my steps, and the one who has promised to lead me in paths of righteousness for Your name's sake. As I prepare my plan, show me how to align it and all the details with Your purposes. If I have a tendency to rush ahead of You, help me wait for Your perfect timing. If I have a tendency to hesitate, help me to step out and take action. I commit my plans to You, Lord. And, Father, if there are traps or temptations or "yes, buts" in my life that are causing me to not enjoy the fullness of all You want to give me, take me beyond them according to Your grace and mercy. I resolve to do whatever pleases you. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Chapter 6

Pocket Prayer (Success Stories)

Heavenly Father, thank you for being the Author of my ultimate success story, for You have redeemed me from a life of not knowing You and taken me to a place of provision and prosperity in Your presence. As I go about writing my SMART Stories, I acknowledge that You have punctuated my life story with many wonderful successes, along with some painful scenes. Thank you for those low points, as well as the high points, for all of them are learning opportunities for me to experience Your love and become more of who You want me to be. Bring to mind the successes I will write about for the exercises in this chapter. Remind me of how You have been there all along the way, faithfully helping and guiding me. May these SMART Stories honor You and Your faithfulness to me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Chapter 7

Pocket Prayer (Career Branding)

Father, thank you for making me in Your image. As I work on furthering the brand and reputation that You want me to have, let it be, first and foremost, founded on You. May Christ-like characteristics be the bedrock of my brand—love, selflessness, servanthood, humility, perseverance, peace. Show me the areas that I need to work on and master as part of my personal brand. Produce those things in me that will make me of value to the work-world, and teach me how to communicate my value proposition with confidence yet humility. Thank you for finishing the good work You have begun in me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Chapter 8

Pocket Prayer (Resumes)

Father, You are a God of excellence and we have been made in Your image. Allow me to write my resume as if I were applying for a job with the Host of Heaven! I ask that You would shine through on my resume—that excellence and perfection would be hallmarks of my resume. May the gifts and strengths You have given me be communicated clearly. Help me portray my experience accurately—giving credit where credit is due yet not being timid about communicating the value I have brought to former employers. Let that be the theme of my career, Lord, bringing value to others—value that is wrapped up in Your presence and power. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Chapter 9

Pocket Prayer (Resume Accomplishments)

Father, You are the one who deserves credit for every accolade and every accomplishment on my resume, for Your Word tells me in Romans 11:36 that all things are from You, and through You, and to You. I covet Your anointing to do the good works that You have assigned for me. Continue to work through me, for I know I can do nothing apart from You. And, Lord, for every future "win" You allow me in my career, I will cast it at Your feet, giving You all the glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Chapter 10

Pocket Prayer

Father, You are a God of progress—You are continually moving things toward the plans and purposes You have for us. Likewise, You desire that we continually move forward in our knowledge of You and in our work in Your kingdom. Thank you for the progress You have given me on my career journey thus far. I want to stop right now and name all of the ways that I have seen Your hand moving on my behalf. [Name those things.] As I prepare to execute a job search, go ahead of me. Prepare divine appointments that will allow me to claim the new territory You have for me—may it be a place where I can know You, grow in my faith, increase my capacity, and reflect Your glory and grace to others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Chapter 11

Pocket Prayer (Job Search)

O God, You are the creator of heaven and earth and have formed every living creature for Your purposes and Your pleasure. Thank you for forming me and walking with me every step of my journey. Like Abraham's servant in Genesis 24:42, I ask that You please "grant success to the journey on which I have come." Open my eyes to the companies or organizations where I can be of value and a blessing. Give me favor with the people I will speak with. For Your name's sake, fill me afresh and anew so that those I encounter would know that there is a living and loving God who desires to dwell within the heart of every human being. Show me how to connect with my networking contacts in a meaningful way. If there are opportunities for ministering to others while I network, open those doors. Thank you that nothing is a waste of time in Your economy, Lord, and so I know that every phone call, every meeting, and every e-mail can be used by You. Strengthen me to conduct my job search as if I were doing it for You, for I am most certainly Your servant first. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Chapter 12

Pocket Prayer (Job Search)

Lord, You are a God of details. Nothing escapes Your notice, from the minute details of how to convert my resume into ASCII text to the best time of day to contact my target companies. Give me clarity of mind to be attentive to the details of my search. Lead me as I set weekly and daily goals for my search. Give me wisdom about how much time to spend on each of my activities. If I'm spending too much time on unproductive activities, forgive me and show me how to readjust. Help me to abide in You every minute of the day, not turning to the left or the right, but putting You front and center so that I, like Joshua, will have "good success" wherever I go (Josh. 1:7). In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Chapter 13

Pocket Prayer (Interviewing)

Gracious Lord, thank you for the interviews that You have prepared for me. I ask that You would go ahead of me and prepare the way. Give me favor with my interviewers. Allow me to see their needs, and how I can be of value and service to them. As Aaron spoke for Moses, Lord, I pray You would speak for me—take my tongue and let it speak words that best capture my experiences and convey my ability to contribute to this organization. Give me discernment to understand where the interviewers are coming from. Help me uncover things that might be important for my protection. If You want me to reveal my relationship with You during this interview, make that clear to me and open the door for it to happen. And if the timing isn't right during the interview, then Father I pray that they would know I am Your follower simply because of the way I act. May my brand be about excellence, love, and servant leadership. Give me a job where I can be a light for You while bringing value to those I work for. I rejoice to serve a God who does exceedingly above all that we ask or think. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Chapter 14

Pocket Prayer (in Preparation for Salary Negotiations)

Father, in Psalm 50:10 You remind me that every animal of the forest is Yours, and the cattle on a thousand hills. You are the creator of all, and the owner of all, including me—all that I am and all that I have. Lord, I recommitment to You my “treasures”—the things that You have entrusted to me—abilities, talents, money, time, property, relationships...everything! Let me use them all for You. If I have fallen short in the area of tithing, forgive me and help me get back on track. Make me a faithful steward. And when it comes time to negotiate salary, I trust You to bring what I need, for You have promised to meet all my needs according to Your riches in Christ Jesus. Let my interviewers see Your presence and peace in me, not greed or an attitude of “going for more” at the detriment of others. Thank you for being with me every step of the way. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Pocket Prayer (for Salary Negotiations)

Father, I rejoice that nothing You intend for me can be snatched from Your hands, and so I ask that You would loose on earth what has been loosed in heaven and bind on earth what has been bound in heaven. Bring these negotiations to Your perfect conclusion...give me wisdom to know when to assert and when to be silent. I praise You that the Holy Spirit is my counselor and that You won't leave or forsake me as I meet with all the individuals involved in this process. Allow me to be a beautiful reflection of You, as I work with diligence and excellence. I rejoice that I will cast down every accolade and treasure won during this earthly race at Your feet, for Your glory. In Jesus’ name, Amen

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Chapter 15

Pocket Prayer (Your New Job Description)

Father, I lift my brothers and sisters who are reading this book before Your throne of grace. You have loved them with an everlasting love, wept over them when they strayed, and welcomed them with open arms when they turned from their willful ways. Lord, they are on a journey—a journey that will end in the unspeakable glory of Your presence. Bless them and keep them, make Your face shine on them, and be gracious to them. Lift up Your face to them and give them peace. Let them soar on wings like eagles, run and not grow weary, and walk and not be faint. Fill them with courage and strength as they claim the new territory that You have carved out for them. Thank you for bringing them into a good place, a land flowing with milk and honey, rich and sweet. May You nourish and satisfy them in every way. As You send them out into the world of work, anoint them for Your purposes. Give them favor. Protect them by the power of Your name. Thank you that nothing can snatch them from Your hand. Give them success, as they turn neither to the left nor to the right, but as they fix their eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of their faith. In Christ’s name, Amen.

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