

Your Talent is Your Wealth

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Jacqueline Nwokeji-Ani

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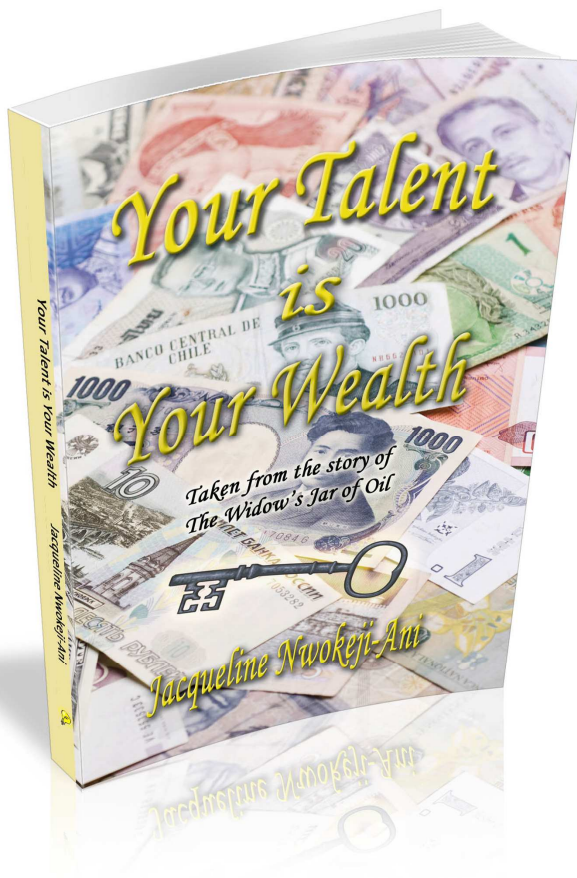
Taken from the story of The Widow's Jar of Oil

We live in an economic climate where working a nine-to-five job can no longer give us the satisfaction needed to fulfil our potential.

Jacqueline Nwokeji-Ani felt this way until she put into practice her belief that discovering and then developing your natural talent so that it can compete in the market place is a strong connector to your wealth. Using the story of The Widow's Jar of Oil from the Bible as an example, Jacqueline shows readers can achieve this too.

Jacqueline Nwokeji-Ani is a Leadership/Career and Personal Development Consultant, Life Coach, Inspirational Speaker and Writer. Jacqueline has a passion to see people excel against the odds and her aim is geared towards helping to encourage, motivate and inspire women to reach for and walk in their full potential. She believes that everyone has a vision and should be liberated to work towards fulfilling it.

"Jackie's passion to see people set free and help them out of crippling circumstances allowed her to reach-out in whatever way she could in the repairing and building of broken lives." Minister Hilary Thompson, True Life Christian Centre



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About the Author



Jacqueline Nwokeji-Ani is a Leadership/Career and Personal Development Consultant, Life Coach, Inspirational Speaker and Writer. With a BSc (Hons) in Management & Systems Science, a Certificate in Life Coaching and a Post Graduate Certificate (PGCE) in Education specialising in Literacy Adult Education, her aim is geared toward encouraging, motivating and inspiring women to reach for and walk in their full potential.

Jacqueline has a passion to see people excel against the odds; her workshops and seminars are geared towards helping women understand their present situation/circumstance and using it as a positive stepping stone to achieving and walking in their destiny.

Jacqueline believes that everyone has a vision and should be liberated to work towards fulfilling it.

With indepth experience as a Recruitment Consultant working for some of the most renowned consultancies, and with proven success in growth, she set up her own Recruitment Consultancy where she specialised in placing people within

the Management field. Jacqueline realised that there were so many people starting their own Recruitment Agencies with little experience in the field, she then decided to write her own professional training manual called the 'Recruitment Executive Development Course' where she delivered Personal Development Training on the importance of being a professional Recruitment Consultant; developing business through positive and successful relationships in order to provide an excellent service and eventually maximise profit.

Through this experience, she realised that she had a passion to encourage, motivate and inspire those who discovered that they were in the wrong careers and stayed out of lack of confidence in their acquired capabilities and fear of changing.

Working through her own issues, Jacqueline set up SHAMMAH Corporation, an organisation that provides training, coaching and personal development techniques to empower people to maximise their potential. For further details please go to www.shammahcorporation.com

One of Jacqueline's workshops 'Rebuilding Your Life through Change' addresses the issues one faces at a crossroad; this has been filmed as a documentary for colleges and schools in and around the UK. She has also featured on a television documentary called 'In Perspective' discussing Career and Personal Development and the importance of how one can rebuild their lives and excel as a result of having encountered a major change.

Jacqueline's newest venture is the inception of Empowered Woman, an organisation set up to empower women in every

area of their lives concentrating on the emotional well being of a woman, so that they in return can empower those in their environment. She set up a forum known as Empowered Women Forum where women can be informed through inspirational discussions, forthcoming events and networking opportunities that would help in further development and emotional well being.

Please visit www.empower.shammahcorporation.com for further information and to register as a member. Jacqueline Nwokeji-Ani can be contacted via the following:

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A Word to Readers

This book is a 2nd edition of my first book *The Widow's Jar of Oil – Knowing What You Have to Get Out of Debt*.

The book covers more detail on how talent can be identified through our every day skills and gifts and the experiences we gain from a job, paid or unpaid to help develop that talent.

While the book discusses principles of identifying and using your talent to open up the wealth assigned to you, it is not a 'get rich quick' scheme.

Every principle in the book must be applied with understanding and knowledge, realising that whatever you put in, you will get out provided you apply the right principles and you give yourself time to develop through the process of learning.

Your Talent is Your Wealth is a book that has been written to empower you to discover your talents, develop them and use them to help others and then you will enjoy the benefits that your talent produces in the lives of others.

Thank you

Jacqueline Nwokeji-Ani



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Jacqueline Nwokeji-Ani asserts the moral right to be
identified as the author of this work.

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Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible (Amplified Version)

Case studies mentioned in this book are based on actual incidents

Acknowledgements

Thank you, Holy Spirit for the idea, articulation and the construction of this book. Your inspiration, love and patience has enabled me to believe and trust in the gift and talents my Father has deposited within me, facing my own fears and making the change to bless others.

Jacqueline Nwokeji-Ani



Foreword

I met Jacqueline Nwokeji-Ani in 1997 where we attended a church together in North London. I remember when she joined us in the ministry we were heading to care for the new believers, where she played a strategic role in administration, visitation and the training program of the ministry.

Jackie's passion to see people set free and help them out of crippling circumstances allowed her to reach-out in whatever way she could in the repairing and building of broken lives.

During the years, we held seminars touching lives with training sessions for leaders and laymen and helping others to pursue careers by handling successful interviews. Jackie has given professional career consultation to many, both within a group and on a personal one to one basis.

Another one of Jackie's passions is her prayer life and her ability to consult God on every major decision in her life.

I have been privy to many valley experiences and the 'Widow's Jar of Oil' represents a rich devotional verse of God dealing with her and His moulding and forming character through circumstances in her life orchestrated by His divine Hand.

In this book, Jacqueline has communicated much of what I have known to be in her heart of personal testimonies and what she has learnt of how God can work with your ability to

accomplish His purpose and bring about success in the life of His children.

I highly commend 'Your Talent is Your Wealth' to you, enriched to touch and change your life.

Minister Hillary Thompson
True Life Christian Centre, London

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Introduction

When I read the story of the Widow's Jar of Oil in the bible in 2001, I felt a tremendous excitement go through my spirit. I knew then that God was looking after me in the trial I was going through and He had now come to give me knowledge, wisdom and understanding through His word as a way out of my situation.

The widow's story mirrored my own situation.

Like the widow, I had a debt to pay; like this widow, I needed a way out, a way to pay off that which I owed; this widow's husband was dead, I was made redundant from my job; I desperately needed help and I needed it NOW!

I had thoughts of everyone I owed coming to take my possessions and selling them to get their money. Amongst other things I was threatened by the creditors; threatened with being taken to jail, bailiffs etc., I could easily have found another job, but that would mean going back to doing what I had grown to hate.

I hated my job. When they made me redundant, I was excited and fearful at the same time, the weight had been lifted from my neck, my thoughts spoke to me saying 'they did me a favour', now I can take my time and find out what my real purpose was, what did I really want to do, what would I be happy doing? I wasn't interested in selling people to employers in the hope that they would have a vacancy to fill; I wasn't interested in influencing someone to take a job they really

didn't want so that I could get my commission associated with the sale; I wasn't interested in exaggerating what a company did so that they could give me their account to work on; I wasn't interested in impressing my employers with the numbers of job vacancies I had managed to persuade companies to give to me. I just wasn't interested in the job I had done for the past 9 years.

I hated it! I was always making up reasons why I was turning up late to work or not turn up at all because I fabricated some kind of illness to explain my absence. It was only when I really became ill one day that I realised that I could no longer continue to fabricate an illness, because I was pre-empting my own sickness; I realised that I had begun to compromise my principles by not being honest and my integrity was being questioned in working for this company that I really needed to get out, and make the move QUICKLY!

I realised what was happening and I realised that I needed to go, but fear kept me in the job. I prayed and prayed to God to give me the confidence to leave a job I had become so tired of doing. And guess what! He answered and released me from the job.

From being described as a 'breath of fresh air' in the beginning to 'you're not pulling your weight' at the end, I was given my marching orders; I wasn't even given a weeks notice, I was told to pack my things, tidy my desk and shut the door behind me on my way out. God released me! They made me redundant! I was relieved! I was free! And I was now very dependent on God.

I remember the words He gave me through a friend a week before I was made redundant; “be bold, strong, confident and fearless for God has given me power and a sound mind”. I shouldn’t be ashamed that I was told to leave, because God was answering my prayers; and my cry, who knows, maybe I pre-empted it. If I could just get past the ‘stigma’ in my mind of how I was told to go, I believed I would eventually come to see that it was really God releasing me from a burdensome job. For He says “come to Me all you who labour and are heavy laden and overburdened, and I will cause you to rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls” (**Matthew 11:28-29 AMP**). God had removed the burden from my shoulders. I guess on hindsight, I must have sensed a prompting to leave the job, but I was looking for something else to go to before I resign. Which makes sense, however sometimes, life doesn’t work that way. Sometimes we have to face the fear and jump so that what we haven’t seen can be seen after the jump. I later discovered that in an ideal world our own desires and what we set out to do can work, but sometimes we must take a risk and see what happens. My relationship with God was bringing me to a place where I needed to totally trust Him even though my actions may not make sense to me or those around me.

After my calculated move, I found myself in a place where I was totally dependant on God; He had me right where He wanted me; I was eager for His direction; I needed help because I had mountains of debts to pay and no job. All I knew was that I couldn’t go back to what I had shut the door on.

I was at a crossroad and I needed to know what direction of my life to take and only God could help me, no one else but God. I put myself in a position where I was going to fall. I believed that He would Catch me. I was in a place where I needed specific instructions from God's Spirit and I needed Him to take me through a process of how I could turn my situation around. You know, when you're at this point, you're desperate to get answers, and Life has a way of answering you when you are at a crisis point. At my crisis point, my faith had been stirred up to wait for His instruction and I wasn't going to do anything until He had spoken into my situation, and He did!

My Christian walk had encouraged me to read the bible daily, looking for answers, obeying what I needed to do to see the principles in the bible take Life form in my own life. We know that Jesus Christ is The Way, The Truth and The Life, He is The Word (Bible) that Comes to Life when we are looking for answers to life's questions, however to read the bible and understand His Principles does not need technical, logical or analytical expertise. It is purely a Spiritual one and our hearts and minds must be clear from preconceptions if we want Him to give us answers to our daily walk. When the answer comes we must also take the instruction from the bible and act on it, that's when we see the result. God wants us to follow Him with a pure heart. Like children who have pure hearts, that's how He develops our relationship with Him. He can break down the most stubborn of hearts and turn it into an innocent one just so that you can see through all the preconceptions and He does it because He wants to bless you. Through my own daily devotion with the bible and prayer, I had come upon the story of The Widow's Jar of Oil

and for some reason I would always read and re-read the story as if there was a message in there for me and I was trying to grasp it. This is how God's Spirit meets us. It could be through our own intuition, a thought, a word from the mouth of a friend or even a circumstance because it is meant to get our attention.

Like my situation, the story of the Widow in the bible was also in a desperate situation; her husband had passed away leaving her and her sons holding a huge debt to their creditors with the threat of using her sons as bondservants to pay off the debt.

This woman was at a crossroad and she needed an intervention of Godly Wisdom to lead her out of the crisis point onto the next level of her life. This woman was ready for a miracle; wisdom that would transition her out of an obscure circumstance to a place of significance.

We all have situations that we need to overcome to move forward, but find it difficult to see a way out. I believe that everything we need is within us and that includes the answers we are searching for; what we need is someone or something to show us what it is that we have within us so that we can use it to step up onto the next level of our destiny.

This book will illustrate the principles the Widow not only embraced but also applied to her circumstances in order to be released from her situation. This story shows the characters of wisdom, faith, boldness, obedience, intuition, humility and honesty; the very qualities we should adopt when looking for answers to lead us out of a crisis point into a new level and new direction to accomplish all that we have planned to do.

The Widow had come to a crossroad in her life. Her husband was dead, her sons were about to be sold to pay off a debt and she had no idea how she was going to settle the huge amount she owed.

At the beginning of each chapter, the verse of the scripture from the bible will be narrated and I will attempt to describe how her cry and the instructions that followed brought her out of the crisis and onto a new level. The process and the principles is for our present interpretation and can be applied to wherever we are in our own crisis.