

Coming Soon!

You can read the first article in Vision Digest 2020, *The Power of Expectation - Think Big, Plan Big, I Have a Big God* on the next page.

# Vision Digest 2020

Proceedings of  
Vision Sundays | Appraisal Sundays |  
Expectation Sundays  
2016 – 2019

	Vision Sunday January	Appraisal Sunday June	Expectation Sunday October
2016	N/A	N/A	The Power of Expectation - Think Big, Plan Big, I Have a Big God
2017	Your Vision, Your Life	Unlock Your Potential	He Makes All Things Beautiful!
2018	Occupy till I come	Ignite your Dream	Go Forward!
2019	Grace 2 Achieve	Refire 2 Achieve	Rehoboth – The Lord has made room for us to be fruitful in the land



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# THE POWER OF EXPECTATION

# THINK BIG, PLAN BIG,

# I HAVE A

# BIG GOD



by **Yinka Oshin**

## The Power of Information

*"11 For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." Jeremiah 29:11 (NLT)*

The most important piece of information you need in your life is to know and understand that God has plans for you. It is paramount you understand that you are not an accident. You were created and sent into the world at this time to fulfil a purpose. It is essential that you discover that purpose in the context of God's plans for your life and be determined to fulfil the purpose.

In the scripture above, we can identify that:

1. God has plans for you
  - a. They are good plans
  - b. To give you an assured future
  - c. To give you hope

So irrespective of your current situation, be reassured of these three pieces of information.

You need an access to God to know these plans for your life. Without going through this access, you will not receive the definite information that gives detailed outline of God's plans for your life.

*"9 I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come*

*that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." John 10:9 – 10 (NKJV)*

From the above scripture, the access to God you need is Jesus Christ. He stated, "He is the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture." In other words, Jesus grants access to God for salvation, protection and provision.

2. God's plans can be accessed through the Door – Jesus Christ (v9)
  - a. He gives salvation
  - b. He gives protection
  - c. He gives provision

The ultimate purpose of gaining access to God through Jesus Christ is to experience an abundant life. This is different from abundant living, which implies that your day to day living necessities are being met. An abundant life signifies you have more than enough to meet your living necessities and become a blessing to others.

3. God's plans through Jesus Christ is for an abundant life (v10)

However due to the entrance of sin into the world, the enemy got an opportunity to give an alternative agenda which has corrupted the original plans God has for His people. The enemy's agenda is to steal, kill and destroy. The enemy's plans are for disaster.

4. Due to the entrance of sin in mankind, the enemy gained access to steal, kill or destroy these original plans (v10)

Nevertheless, through the power of God, we have the privilege to receive restoration by gaining access through the door of life – Jesus Christ. The power of God will bring restoration to all the negative agendas of the enemy in your life, in Jesus name, amen.

5. However, the power of God is available to bring restoration; God's original plans was not for disaster; He is merciful to turn things around when we call on Him.

### How to know God's Plan for your life

To know God's plan for your life, spend time with Him in fellowship. The reward of fellowshiping with God is information sharing. God is a reservoir of all the information you require to experience an abundant purposeful and fulfilled life; and He is more than ready to share this information with you. All we need to do is to spend time with Him in fellowship.

*"29 The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law." Deuteronomy 29:29 (NKJV)*

*"3 'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know." Jeremiah 33:3 (NKJV)*

When we fellowship with God, we will receive definite instructions for His plans for our lives. He gives the information in phases so that we can easily comprehend them. If God were to reveal to us, everything that concerns us at once, our mental capacity cannot fully understand them. That is why, information is released in phases for us to act on them and as we do that, we will grow in His knowledge and then receive more information for our lives as required.

### We can fellowship with God:

a. **Individually** – When we pray, worship, read His word and hear messages through His servants.

b. **Collectively** – When we gather to have family altar, house fellowship, church meetings and other events. This can be when we are all together physically or virtually using a teleconferencing system, the internet and social media.

Whenever we meet either individually or collectively to seek God's face, we have the privilege of receiving information that will greatly benefit our lives. Considering Adam as an example, the dimensions of information sharing we receive from God include:

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*“You need an access to God to know these plans for your life. Without going through this access, you will not receive the definite information that gives detailed outline of God's plans for your life”*

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1. **Work & Business Opportunities** – *"15 The Lord God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it." Genesis 2:15 (NLT)* Adam received clear guidance on the work and business opportunities that existed in the garden of Eden for him to be gainfully employed and produce wealth. God is interested in guiding you towards the work and business opportunities He has planned for your life.

2. **Health & Safety** – *"16 But the Lord God warned him, "You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden— 17 except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die." Genesis 2:16 – 17 (NLT)* God is concerned about our health and safety, He gave instructions to Adam on what to do to keep healthy and safe whilst living in the garden of Eden. He wants us to live in safe and healthy environment.





3. **Companionship** – *“18 Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.” Genesis 2:18 (NLT)* God gave Adam the opportunity to build beneficial relationships, when He created Eve as a companion for him. God wants us to build relationships that are mutually beneficially through marriage, family, friendships, partnerships, professional, neighbours and communal associations.
  
4. **Discipline** – *“16 Then he said to the woman, “I will sharpen the pain of your pregnancy, and in pain you will give birth. And you will desire to control your husband, but he will rule over you.” 17 And to the man he said, “Since you listened to your wife and ate from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat, the ground is cursed because of you. All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it. 18 It will grow thorns and thistles for you, though you will eat of its grains. 19 By the sweat of your brow will you have food to eat until you return to the ground from which you were made. For you were made from dust, and to dust you will return.” Genesis 3:16 – 18 (NLT)* For breaching His health and safety law, God disciplined Adam and Eve, teaching them that decisions they make in life has consequences that affects not just them but others too. God wants to be able to correct and discipline us too in love.
  
5. **Mercy & Grace** – *“21 And the Lord God made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife.” Genesis 3:21 (NLT)* Even in discipline, God allowed His mercy and grace to be manifested to Adam and Eve. That mercy and grace is available to everyone that seeks Him.

### **The Power of Expectation**

*“17 Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the Lord all the day long. 18 For surely there is an end; and thine expectation shall not be cut off.” Proverbs 23:17 – 18 (KJV)*

Your expectation as the righteous in Christ of the Most High God shall not be cut off. You can't live

your lives by comparing your plans with others. You are special and unique; it follows you have special plans that God has designed and destined you to accomplish.

It is the power of expectation that will assist you to seek God for His plans for your lives, receive the directions to implement and then work diligently to fulfil them.

The main challenge for most Christians is that we do not have any expectation for our lives. We experience life based on randomness of events that happen around us. We are not actively seeking God's plans with a sense of expectation that He will reveal them and empower us to accomplish them.

There is no farmer that plant seeds without an expectation for a harvest. Every farmer will prepare the ground, plant the seeds, water and apply nutrients as appropriate, keep the growing crops secure by removing weeds. This is done by the farmer with an expectation for a harvest. And according to the circle of life for the planted seeds, the farmer will reap a bountiful harvest. That is the power of expectation.

You don't place an order at a drive through fast food restaurant and not expect to pick up your order at the collection window. By placing and paying for an order for food at the drive through restaurant, you have entered into a contract with the restaurant; they are duty bound to deliver your order as requested at the collection window. You don't drive off without collecting your order. You display full confidence that your order will be completed as you've requested it. That is the power of expectation.

A pregnant wife does not wait till when she is due to deliver before getting things ready for the baby (babies); that is why they are sometimes called expectant mothers. As soon as she discovers she is pregnant, necessary arrangements are put in place to prepare her body for the pregnancy and eventual delivery; get appropriate supplies for herself and the baby; visit health professionals for medical monitoring and care and expectantly look forward to the occasion when after delivery, she will be able to carry her baby in her hands. That is the power of expectation.

An Architect designs a building to meet the instructions of a client. The architect will consider a number of factors that include the physical terrain where the building will be erected, the purpose of the building – family house, sports arena, school, hospital etc – the suitable materials that will be required, the funding to complete the building, other



infrastructure that might be needed within the local area and the budget of the client.

On completing the design and securing the client's approval, the architect passes it on to the builders who will complete the building based on the specification detailed in the design. As appropriate, the builders will seek clarifications with both the architect and client; however, the final building will be based on the architect's design. Although what everyone sees is on paper; the power of expectation brings the design into reality.

God is the Architect of your life, He has a blueprint for you to follow and live a fulfilled, abundant and purposeful life. All you need to do is ask Him and He will show you. *"40 Be sure that you make everything according to the pattern I have shown you here on the mountain." Exodus 25:40 (NLT), "40 Study the design you were given on the mountain and make everything accordingly." Exodus 25:40 (MSG)*

Many people have not received from God because they are not expectant. As we approach a new year, you need to be expectant! *"5 My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him." Psalm 62:5 (KJV), "5 Let all that I am wait quietly before God, for my hope is in him." Psalm 62:5 (NLT)*

### **Think Big, Plan Big, I have a Big God**

We will now critically consider the story of the woman that used to have an issue of blood and learn how she engaged the power of expectation to secure a breakthrough.

*"25 Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years, 26 and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse. 27 When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment. 28 For she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well." 29 Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction. 30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?" 31 But His disciples said to Him, "You see the multitude thronging You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?'" 32 And He looked around to see her who had done this thing. 33 But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. 34 And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction." Mark 5:25 – 34 (NKJV)*

Some lessons we can learn from this woman include:

1. The woman's illness was not part of God's plan for her life (v25)

It is an established fact that this woman had a debilitating illness. She was nursing this illness for about 12 years. However, we can safely infer that this sickness was not part of God's original plan for her life. At least there was a period before in her life that she wasn't sick. Disease, illness and being sick were not God's plan for her life; it is the consequence of living in a sinful world.

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*“God is the Architect of your life, He has a blueprint for you to follow and live a fulfilled, abundant and purposeful life.”*

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Are you sick? Are you experiencing any form of disease or illness in your body, marriage, finances or relationships? Be reassured that this is not part of God's plan for your life. Be expectant that God has the power to turn the situation around for your good; He will intervene and remove all forms of disease and illness from your life in Jesus name, amen.

2. The enemy stole, killed and destroyed her life (v26)

As a result of this illness and period of sickness:

- a. She lost all her money in an attempt to get a cure from physicians. All her savings were spent on seeking medical treatment; yet she wasn't cured.
- b. She was a social outcast. There was no mention of her family or friends; she couldn't marry.
- c. She couldn't build her career or business; all her savings were spent. She couldn't maintain her commitment to work and build her finances.
- d. She was in pain, discomfort and embarrassed.
- e. She couldn't think of the future; all hope seemed lost.

Are you experiencing any of these adverse effects in areas of your life? Are you wondering can I ever get out of this period of pain, discomfort and embarrassment? Be encouraged that because God's original plan are good, He has the power to break the hold of the enemy and bring restoration to all areas of your life in Jesus name, amen.

3. However, she began a journey to experience a turnaround when she heard about Jesus (v27)

This woman's turnaround started when she heard about Jesus. Although, she was still sick, she received enough information about Jesus Christ to know that He is the solution to her problem. Whatever she heard made her realised that Jesus was a Big God that can give her the Big and Good plans she wants in her life. **She was a beneficiary of information sharing; someone told her about Jesus Christ.**

4. She thought Big! (v28)

This woman came up with some radical thinking!

She thought, "If I could touch the helm of the garment of Jesus Christ, I will receive my miracle".

**That was thinking Big! She did not have any precedent for her thinking!** Yet she did not limit herself. There were a thousand and one reasons limiting her access to get the breakthrough she desperately wanted; yet she thought big and came up with an unprecedented idea.

You have more than enough information about Jesus Christ than this woman to think Big! This woman is a challenge to you, to come up with Big thinking that will grant you access to your breakthrough.

5. She planned Big! (v27)

This woman did not stop at the level of thinking Big! **She took positive steps and acted on her thinking. This was ground-breaking action.** In the midst of the multitude, she pressed, pushed and placed her hand on the helm of the garment of Jesus Christ. **She broke cultural barriers.** There were strict cultural ethics that covered relationships between men and women in public. A woman is not permitted to touch another unrelated man, not to talk of touching a Rabbi. This explains why she was trembling when Jesus Christ insisted to know who touched Him. This woman broke this cultural barrier and received her breakthrough.

**Plan Big and act on your big thinking!** Break whatever barriers, protocols that might be limiting your path to breakthrough. You have a Big God that is bigger than all man-made barriers and protocols.

6. She experienced a Big Miracle! (v29)

This woman's expectation for a turnaround was rewarded. She received the healing and breakthrough she so desperately desired. **She got a Big Miracle.**

You are next in line for a Big Miracle. Be expectant that because you have a Big God that does Big Miracles, your situation will receive a turnaround today in Jesus name, amen.



7. She testified before Jesus Christ and the multitude (v33)

**This woman got value added breakthroughs.** In addition to her healing, Jesus Christ gave her a unique opportunity for her to share her testimony to her world. She became a celebrity. All eyes were focussed on her as she shared her story. Her pain became her gain; her test became her testimony; her suffering became her glory. **Jesus Christ gave her the privilege to share the spotlight with Him.** Jesus could easily have kept quiet and continued His journey; but because He knew the significance of what the woman had accomplished, He gave her an opportunity to validate her testimony.

Whatever that challenge might be, you will stand and share your testimony to the glory of God. The Most High God will grant you a testimony that can never be aborted or disproved in Jesus name, amen.

8. She received a prophetic word from Jesus Christ (v34)

She was privileged to receive a direct information that validated her expectation from Jesus Christ. She became a generational blessing to many. We are reading about her today because she thought big, planned big, knowing she had a big God!

9. She was fully restored to embrace the abundant life that comes from encountering Jesus Christ

All the limitations she had was removed from her life. She can now think about the future with a renewed hope. She can start rebuilding her finances. There was an expectation of getting married and starting a family. All pain, discomfort and embarrassment were removed.

The power of expectation manifests itself when you think big! plan big!! because you know you have a BIG GOD!!!

To experience a massive breakthrough in the New Year and beyond, develop a power of expectation now! Expand your thought process and come up with big thinking! Plan big, work hard, work smart and act on your big thinking!! There is a Big Breakthrough coming your way!!!

### **What is your Expectation?**

After learning how the woman that used to have an issue of blood used the power of expectation to receive her breakthrough, it is imperative for you to apply these lessons to your life and receive your miracle.

What is your Expectation for the New Year? This is an opportunity to prepare prayerfully and strategically for the New Year.

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*“Whatever that challenge might be, you will stand and share your testimony to the glory of God.”*

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*“1 I waited patiently for the Lord to help me, and he turned to me and heard my cry. 2 He lifted me out of the pit of despair, out of the mud and the mire. He set my feet on solid ground and steadied me as I walked along. 3 He has given me a new song to sing, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see what he has done and be amazed. They will put their trust in the Lord. 4 Oh, the joys of those who trust the Lord, who have no confidence in the proud or in those who worship idols. 5 O Lord my God, you have performed many wonders for us. Your plans for us are too numerous to list. You have no equal. If I tried to recite all your wonderful deeds, I would never come to the end of them.”*  
*Psalms 40: 1 – 5 (NLT)*

*“4-5 Make a careful exploration of who you are and the work you have been given, and then sink yourself into that. Don't be impressed with yourself. Don't compare yourself with others. Each of you must take responsibility for doing the creative best you can with your own life.”*  
*Galatians 6:4 – 5 (MSG)*



## Areas You need to have an Expectation

*Under each section indicate 3 goals you have an expectation to achieve in the New Year. In the third column, state how you will measure your progress and achievement.*

	<b>Area</b>	<b>Goals</b>	<b>Appraisal &amp; Achievement</b>
1.	Your Personal Development	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.
2.	Your Marriage & Family	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.
3.	Your Relationships	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.
4.	Your Career & Business	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.
5.	Your Finances	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.
6.	Your Physical Life – Health & Wellbeing	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.
7.	Your Spiritual Life	1. 2. 3.	1. 2. 3.

### Hindrances to Expectation

Some hindrances that might limit your ability to have godly expectations include:

1. Your past life and experiences – Don't allow your past to hinder your future. You are not a failure; you are a work in progress. Keep plodding on, fighting hard and don't quit till you get your breakthrough.
2. Your ancestry and race – You are created unique by God and have special talents and gifts to impact your world; discover your talents and gifts, maximise them to bring a reward to your life, benefit your community and bring glory to God.
3. Your environment, situations & circumstances – Don't be limited by your environment and

circumstances; rise above them to embrace your destiny and achieve your God ordained purpose.

4. Your educational and social status – Don't be limited by your education and social status, aspire to learn more, network with like-minded partners and break every barrier on your way to success.

None of these is a determination of who you are in Christ. You have been redeemed, renewed and restored to achieve the good plans God has prepared for your life. Do not let any situation be a hindrance to you experiencing a fulfilled, abundant and purposeful life. "17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person.



The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"  
2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

*This message was delivered during Expectation Sunday, an event designed to prepare prayerfully and strategically for a new year.*

Once you base your expectations on the information received from God, you are destined for greatness. *"11 For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope."* Jeremiah 29:11 (NLT)

*"9 I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."* John 10:9 – 10 (NKJV)



**Final Word**

Turn your expectations into reality. Receive information about God’s plans for your life, think big, plan big, work hard, work smart to receive your big breakthrough. You are destined for greatness.

**Prayer Points**

1. Lord, help me to have positive expectations in line with your will for my life in Jesus Name, amen.
2. Father, I commit all my expectations in your hands, turn them into testimonies in Jesus name, amen.
3. Father, I ask that you keep me in the last days of this year and bring me rejoicing into the New Year in Jesus name, amen.



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**Lessons to Learn**

After reading this article, contemplate on some of the lessons you’ve learnt and indicate below three lessons you are going to act on to improve your life.

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....