



THE LUMINARY: SHINING GOD'S LIGHT IN DARK PLACES

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*You are made Perfect
for your Purpose!*

**God's Plan For you!
Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV):**

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper and not to harm you, to give you hope and a future."

- He has a plan for you.
- He loves you and wants for you to prosper.
- He knows the beginning from the end.
- He said He will Never Leave You.
- His desire is to give you hope.

IT'S ALL ABOUT PURPOSE!
FINALLY OPERATE WITHIN YOUR CALLING!

Are you in a career that is far from what you believe is your calling? Do you compare yourself to those who seem to enjoy successful and fruitful careers? Do you believe that despite your best efforts things just never seem to go your way; stuck in a career that merely pays the bills but doesn't fill the inner need for something more?

Did you know that each one of us is born with a genius for something? It is true. God packaged us so that we are born with all of the tools needed to define and realize our unique purpose in life; thus making us perfect for our purpose.

Many recognize their purpose during childhood. Unfortunately due to variable and external influences, the pursuit of purpose is often discouraged by societal biases, hidden in hobbies or dismissed as "foolishness." Ultimately, our purpose is simply forgotten as we busy ourselves with the "real" world of paying bills and building families.

Let's examine this more directly. As a child, can you remember wanting to do something when you grew up?

Something that keeps coming to mind even in your adult years after everyone, including yourself, has told you that it is not possible? Or you are really good at something that was somehow suppressed as you grew into adulthood?

Maybe it was your parents or your friends that laughed at your idea or told you that you weren't smart enough, attractive enough, or born with the right genes to accomplish your dream. Eventually, you believed them, abandoned your unique purpose and started down the path of unfulfillment.

Fortunately, it is never too late to find your purpose in life. Just look at all the examples of people abandoning successful careers to pursue a lifelong dream.

You hear it all of the time. A wall street broker, high priced attorney, successful business person, all deciding to leave the rat race and pursue a different career path. Maybe they suffered burnout, their health started to deteriorate or they were forced out by budget cuts. At the end of the day, the



What is keeping you from your purpose?

reason doesn't matter. They were given a second chance to answer the whispers in their mind and soul. To do what God intended them to do.

Doing what God intends will cause you to be questioned, ridiculed behind your back and not taken seriously. When you

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WELCOME TO OUR FIRST HOLIDAY EDITION!



Nanette Kirk, President and CEO

I am very excited to share our articles of faith and purpose with you this holiday season! My name is Nanette Kirk, President and CEO of NetKi Enterprises, LLC. I want to thank you for reading our newsletter!

It is our goal to produce content that will encourage and empower our readers to pursue

their goals and enrich the lives of others.

In this holiday edition, we offer articles on pursuing your God-given purpose, Jessie Kirk discusses sage advice on how to combat depression in "Pressing Forward."

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SISTERS WORKING IN PURPOSE: MONICA FREEMAN: OWNER OF MY FAVORITE THING

I'm so excited about this interview! I love hearing the stories of those operating in their purpose. I had the opportunity to interview Monica Freeman after working with her and then learning that she is a writer and also has a body butter business that she is launching. Monica lives in South Carolina and like so many, received (what some would call) the discernment to relocate and pursue her purpose.

Me: Tell Us a little about yourself and how you got started.

Monica: My name is Monica Freeman and I have a Body Butter Business called My Favorite Thing. I am the youngest of four girls, the baby or as my mother calls it, "The Last One or The Last Go Round". We are a family of entrepreneurs. All of us have some side business that we are involved in. My Oldest sister went in full time and started a sewing business. As entrepreneurs, my sisters often participated or held vending events to showcase their businesses. I would often come and help. I noticed all of the fun they were having and they joy they got from it and decided that I wanted to sell something too. I was elated with the joy and pleasure you get from making something that somebody outside of your family would want and the feeling of making that first sale. There's nothing like it! I read somewhere that it is the God in you when you feel like you're creating and that you are on the right path.

Me: How did you decide on Body Butter?

Monica: I've always had an interest in skin care and beauty. In another life, I was a makeup artist. I did things locally with

weddings and fashion shows. I always had an interest in skin care and beauty, make up artistry lessons at department stores and that parlayed into becoming a licensed aesthetician; doing facials. Being in beauty, I began to research products possible ingredients and things. I've always enjoyed Bath and Body Works; loving the different smells. I found that while the lotions went on well, they would dry up so much on my skin as if I



My Favorite Thing... The Body Butter.
Available at on Facebook.com/thebodybutter.

didn't have anything on. I had to constantly reapply two hours later. As a result, I was inspired to create something that would last longer, that in the summertime would not make me greasy, like having on baby oil, you know when you're too greasy; the dirt and gnats would get stuck on you - that is so gross. But I also wanted something that in the wintertime, it wouldn't be too lightweight that it would dry quicker in the winter air. I looked for something and it was during that time that shea butter became really popular so I started there. I found that there were different kinds of refined shea butter so I wouldn't interfere with the natural scent while adding my own scent.

Monica: Then I found out shea butter has a healing element to it. One of my sisters had a severe case of psoriasis on her feet and lower leg. She used my body butter every day. She loved

it, started to sell it for me and tell others about it. She went to an doctor's appointment. He asked her if she was using something else. She responded that all she was using was my body butter. The doctor responded, "Well she needs to put it on the market because this is the prettiest psoriasis that I've ever seen." Now I can't say that it heals psoriasis, but I can only say what people are telling me when they've used it. Another example is my god-sister has a little two year old who had a bad diaper rash. As a licensed nurse, my god-sister began reading the ingredients and decided to try the body butter on her son. The next day she called and told me that she had put the body butter on her son's diaper rash and the next morning it was healed.

Me: How many fragrances do you have of the body butter?

Monica: I'm playing around with that, I actually have anywhere from 6 to 10. I'm trying to narrow it down to about 5 that I really like most for women and 2 for men. Because I'm finding more and more women are asking for scents that they can get for their boyfriends or husbands and it has been working well. I kind of use my clientele now for my focus group they really like the lemongrass, the baby powder something really soft, amber, but I'm trying to figure out newer scents that will be popular, like the mango and citrus. I wanted to have one or two earthy scents, one or two soft scents and one or two fruity/citrus scents.

Me: Do you believe I can usually tell when I talk to

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*"I read somewhere that it is the God in you when you feel like you're creating and that you are on the right path."
-Monica Freeman*

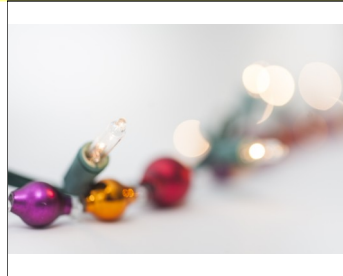
CELEBRATE LIFE! NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS!

During my life, I have experienced good, bad, disappointment, achievements and everything in between. Through it all, God has been good and faithful.

I have learned to treat everything as a learning experience to share with others and to facilitate my own growth. I've learned not to be surprised by the actions of others, whether they are positive, negative, disappointing or unfair. God knows much more about the situation than I and He never allows anything into my life that will not ultimately be used for my good.

Though at times, tears have been the comfort to my pain, God always manages to wipe them all away and show me the path to brighter tomorrows. I still dare to dream and to pursue my God-given purpose. I will prevail.

I want to say Thank You to those of you who have been a part of the journey, whether negative or positive - it propels me to **Do More** and **Be More**. Pondering the saying, "People enter your life for a reason, season or a lifetime." I've learned that it is just that way - whether expected or not. Almighty God who is omnipotent, knows what's best.



It's time to celebrate!

As a I close yet another chapter in my life, I look forward to the possibilities of the next chapter. God always seem to send someone who can further enrich the experience: a reason, season or a lifetime...

"I want to say Thank You to those of you who have been a part of the journey, whether positive or negative."

-Nanette Kirk

SISTERS WORKING IN PURPOSE: (CON'T).

MONICA FREEMAN: MY FAVORITE THING

(continued from page 2)

different people or clients I can tell what their passions is and I can help them figure out the direction they want their career to go and what I'm hearing as you speak about your body butter, I can hear your passion and is what piqued my interest do you believe that this is your unique purpose fulfilled.

Monica: I do. I think my purpose is to heal and this is just the vehicle at least right now to be able to do that. From the time I was an aesthetician, I wasn't the kind like others who would wear gloves. I did skin-on-skin (care). I had quite a few people tell me that I had healing hands, like the energy coming off of my hands they could actually feel it coming off of my hands. So when I heard those things, it was like oh, okay and it went in one ear and out the other. However, those comments

stayed with me and was very important to me. I realized that touch is very important to me. For me, doing the body butter was helping people to heal. I didn't realize it at the time, but now over the past year, it is like a light-bulb is going off for me. The body butter is the vehicle for me to help people heal. Years ago, I would've never put two and two together.

Me: Why do you think that your body butter is being so well received, or to your point you just realized the power of healing and touch at this time in your life. Why do you think it is coming to fruition now?

Monica: It could be that the time is right now because I've made some real changes in my life in the past few years, I'm in charlotte NC now but I'm originally from DC. In 2013, I just quit my good government job in DC, picked up and moved here without anything

lined up. I just felt like it was right; that it was the thing to do. When I tell you that everything lined up perfectly with very little effort from me, it is true. I had no connections here as far as a job. I did my job search just like everyone else online and within three months I landed a job. God was just taking care of a sister.

To read more of Monica's compelling interview, go to [www.netkient.com/Sisters Working in Purpose](http://www.netkient.com/SistersWorkinginPurpose).

Monica's body butter can be found on [Facebook.com/thebodybutter](https://www.facebook.com/thebodybutter) or at www.myfavoritething.biz

"For me, doing the body butter was helping people to heal."

-Monica Freeman

PRESSING FORWARD:

MOVING UP FROM DEPRESSION: JESSIE KIRK

"Always be positive. Live today in a way that when tomorrow comes, the memories of yesterday will always be cherished ones."



Even during the darkest times, God has a way of showing us He is There.

It is a part of nature that as we grow older, we lose people in our lives; family, friends, acquaintances and spouses. While we understand that death is a part of life, it is difficult to lose the ones we love. The feelings associated with the loss of a loved one is also exacerbated as we ourselves move closer to the end of our own lives.

As we are left behind and we lose our spouse and confidante of forty years, our siblings or our close friends,

we can feel lonely and isolated, particularly when our children have moved on to lead their own lives.

When my husband died, I felt alone. Yet I also knew that I had to survive. I had to figure out a way to handle bills, problems and to work through the loneliness of moving forward in life without him. I entered a new phase in my life and realized that I needed a new focus.

My faith in God has also deepened. I volunteered during the second Obama

presidential campaign as a telephone volunteer. During downtimes, a good friend of mine and I ventured around the city. While those activities seemed small, it was a seed of hope that I would be okay as I navigated through this new phase of my life. I am growing.

I want to encourage other senior brother and sisters who have experienced loss, that there is still the energy of life and enjoyment! Everyone at some time in their life experiences pitfalls and down-

falls; however God is always with you. Keep having the faith to know that all things are possible with God. Find yourself a goal to work toward. Think of your ability to get to the next level. Say "I can" because "I can't" is not an option.

Think of yourself as a fine car. Then think of God as your driver. With God at the wheel you will overcome all of your fears and have success. Continue to believe that life is a journey and then enjoy the ride! Sure, there are challenges every day, but realize they are temporary. God is our strength and our refuge (*Psalms 46:1*).

Don't give in to the loneliness or negative emotions. Always be positive. Live today in a way that when tomorrow comes, the memories of yesterday will always be cherished ones.

Jessie Kirk has always weathered life's storms through her dependence on God. Jessie offers comforting words of wisdom to those who know and love her and is debuting her thoughts in print in the Luminary. You can find more from Jessie in coming editions under her column, Pressing Forward. Jessie has four adult daughters and currently lives in

"Always be positive. Live today in a way that when tomorrow comes, the memories of yesterday will be cherished ones."
-Jessie Kirk

WELCOME TO OUR FIRST HOLIDAY EDITION (CONT.)

(continued from page 1)

There is also a compelling article of a "Sister Working In Purpose;" Monica Freeman, founder of My Favorite Thing..., who dared to move forward to pursue her dream of healing using her body butter products.

We also have Dontia Warren Owner of Metro Spice Company who has a flavorful salt alternative that is both tasty and healthy. You can learn more about Dontia and her spices at www.metrospiceco.com.

There is an archived author interview from our first novel

Familiar Strangers, Changing Faces, author Nanette Kirk and an excerpt from our second novel When Do I Get to the Good Part?

Fulfilling your God-given purpose is important because it is your greatest gift to the world. There are people literally waiting for your gift. Don't let fear or anything keep you from achieving your purpose.

Many times during the holiday we focus more on spending

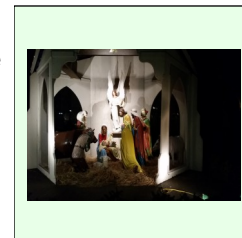
money and giving material gifts, but the gift of you is what is most cherished.

During this holiday season, we ask that you reflect on the gift of Jesus Christ and your God-given purpose.

Did you know that God had you in mind before the world began? He planted a gift in you for you to share with the world. That's just how important you are!

Won't you share your gift with the world?

While you ponder, Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Scene of the Nativity downtown, Indianapolis, IN

"Don't let fear or anything keep you from achieving your purpose."

-Nanette Kirk

IT'S ALL ABOUT PURPOSE! FINALLY DO WHAT YOU WERE CREATED TO DO!

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

give up an ordered existence to pursue the illogical based on faith, you will get some funny looks, words of discouragement or even unsolicited advice about your mental state of mind. You simply cannot listen to your distracters or even try to justify your thought process. That is the key. YOU and you alone are responsible for fulfilling your unique purpose. It doesn't matter if others do not understand. You have to believe in yourself and DO it. You MUST ACT on your dream. Let me say it again, DO IT!

I'm not advocating that everyone walk up to their manager, quit their job and run off to start a business in Jamaica. Please understand that there is a thin line between doing what you were meant to do and doing what you might like to do. Be sure to understand the difference. Just because you like doing something or you envision yourself in a certain occupation, does not mean that you will be good at it or that there is even a market for it. Always remember that your unique purpose is something you were destined to do and that it comes natural to you—that's the key to know whether or not you're within your purpose. Does it



It is important that you fulfill your God-given purpose. There are people waiting to be blessed by you. Are you operating within your purpose?

come naturally and does it give you peace (peace not avoidance) despite all of the uncertainties.

I have a strong faith in God and as such, I truly believe that where He guides, He provides. This means that if you are walking in your purpose and believe that God has guided you into it, then he will provide the resources you need to fulfill it. Those resources could be financial, favor, ideas or opportunities. Again, it will come natural and can happen suddenly. However, it doesn't mean that it will be easy, that there won't be challenges and that you will realize your full vision immediately. As with everything, it will take effort by you, but God promised to give us guidance and to be with us

during the journey. I've come to learn that I'm most fulfilled when I've overcome a challenge compared to something that I've achieved effortlessly.

Lastly, never compare yourself to others. What is destined for you is for you and your journey will support it. There is only one original YOU, so live to maximize yourself and not become a cheap copy of someone else.

Don't put it off any longer. Start small if you need to. You already what you are supposed to do. Just listen to the child inside, trust your instincts and have faith.

(Contributor: S. Harmon)

“You simply cannot listen to your distracters or even justify your thought process. YOU and only you alone are responsible for fulfilling your unique purpose.”



www.metrospiceco.com

Who We Are

A premium line of salt free spice blends with a flavor punch unlike any other. Let us help you on your journey to healthier eating!

Our Spices

We use natural ingredients and produce in small batches to maintain the integrity of the spices and herbs.



Where flavor and healthy reside

If you are looking for a healthy and flavorful salt alternative, then Metro Spice Company is your answer! Try their three flavors this holiday! It's also a great gift idea for those you love!

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THE DECISION

This is an archive article from 2012. I wanted to add it because many are pressured and experiencing very challenging times. I pray that this article encourages you and propels you to action.

How many of us had unusually trying times the past few years? Some have even been brought to their knees with problems while pondering why? How? These things happened to them? How many of us have wondered the direction the world is going? The economy has been volatile. People have lost their life's savings and are facing homelessness. What is going on? I was one of those people asking those very questions. However, I have been reminded that there can't be miracles without challenges, even

disappointments. I am reminded that no matter what I deal with that there is always hope. With faith, tenacity, patience and perseverance, we can achieve our dreams and our purpose.

Despite recent challenges, I believe that we are moving into a transition that will set the pace for the next several years. What we do this year will set the groundwork for our future. Be encouraged and reminded that any challenges we've faced is to set us up for our future; to make us better and accomplish path that has been set before us. Remember, "THIS TOO SHALL PASS." There is a reward for those who complete the journey.

We have a decision to make. Either we move forward despite the challenges or we continue to be crippled by the past. Know and understand that there will

certainly be times that you look around to see no one standing beside you, no one encouraging you. At those times, I reference King David when he was afraid and he recovered everything that he lost.

Use your fear as energy to propel you forward. Keep it going. All of the challenges that you faced in your past is not for naught. Those experiences are there as tools to accomplish your purpose as you also share those experience with others to encourage them to move forward.

So what are you going to do?

"Use your fear as energy to propel you forward. Keep It going."

-Nanette Kirk

WHEN DO I GET TO THE GOOD PART?

The following is an excerpt from our second novel, When Do I Get to the Good Part? A story of a family caught up into a chain of domestic abuse and their journey to healing. The book is due for release in 2016.

Curtis walks through the front door to find activity in the house. He had stayed out all night after fighting with Jackie yet again. She accused him of cheating, but that was the last thing he would do. He loved her tremendously. He had gone out drinking with the guys after work and came home late. He knew he should've called, but he didn't want to hear Jackie's nagging. She seems to always know how to push his buttons.

She was pretty spunky and that's what drew him to her. However, that nagging mouth of hers would pierce his brain and cause him to explode. Was she completely wrong about him cheating? Not exactly, he admitted to Jackie that once he had gone out on a date with another woman, but the two of them didn't even kiss.

He had just wanted things the way they were when they first married. No other woman could fill Jackie's shoes and he foolishly admitted that he went out on the date with the woman. Jackie pretended to be understanding and indicated that she appreciated his honesty. However, whenever they got into a fight, she'd bring that up again. That's when he

learned his lesson. He would never tell Jackie the full truth ever again. Women say that they want the truth, but they can't handle it. So instead of confiding in his wife, he absorbs his troubles in alcohol. There was no fighting or nagging; just the warm feeling of the liquor smoothly moving through his insides, calming him and making things better, even if it was a damn lie.

How was he going to gain control of his life and be the man his family needed before he loses them all?

Readers can find another excerpt at www.netkient.com. When Do I Get to the Good Part? Is the property of NetKi Enterprises, LLC and cannot be copied without the author's express permission.

"That's when he learned his lesson. He would never Jackie the full truth again."

-Nanette Kirk

NetKi Enterprises, LLC

Faith Based Stories Real Life Situations



We're Social!

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 Nanette Kirk, MBA

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 Nanette_Kirk

"Can we expect to hear more from these characters? You've seemed to have left the door open for a sequel...."

A Little About Us!

NetKi Enterprises, LLC presents inspiring stories that will change our readers lives! Readers are whisked away into the character's world to find themselves in exciting places and situations. The goal of the stories is to inspire readers to utilize their god-given talents and/or strengths to accomplish their dreams or tackle any situation. Our goal is to assist you in being the best you can be. Our intention is to provide relevant information that is value-added for our readers. Throughout our web-sites, guests can find biblically based information that will help them as they progress through various challenges in life.

Feel free to peruse our website at www.netkient.com by checking out blogs. There are also additional short stories from talented authors to enjoy.

We also offer resume writing and career mentorship services. You can learn more about us as well as view resume samples and free whitepapers at www.netkienterprises.com.

FAMILIAR STRANGERS, CHANGING FACES AUTHOR INTERVIEW: NANETTE KIRK

This interview is from the archives of 2012. One of my good friends who wants to remain anonymous conducted the interview. Thanks Girl! Please enjoy!

Nanette Kirk is the author of *Familiar Strangers, Changing Faces*. The book is her first foray into published work after over ten years of writing.

I joined Netta (her preference) at a local coffee shop over a cup of coffee for me and a caramel flavored coffee beverage for her. She smiles as the server brings us our orders and offers a polite "thank you". The server smiles and returns to the back of the counter to serve another awaiting customer. I look back at Netta and go into interview mode. I decided to ask her why it took her ten years or more to finally release *Familiar Strangers, Changing Faces*.

She looks at me as if she's been asked this question before. "You know, I think the biggest thing was procrastination and fear. It's different when you write for yourself and when you open it up to others. I always knew that writing stories were my purpose. Writing always came easy for me. I knew it would always be something I would do. It became a hobby at first." My interest was piqued. "So when did your writing become more than a mere hobby?" She looks out the window for a moment as if she is pondering my question. "You



Familiar Strangers, Changing Faces is available on lulu.com and amazon.com

know, I don't know. It just seemed to progress into that. I had a yearning or maybe more of a burning inside of me to get my story out. I've always wanted to help others through my stories. In fact, *Familiar Strangers, Changing Faces* is not my first story. It's probably like my third. As I continued with the concept and as the characters became real, I focused more on this story."

Her comments leads into my next question. "How did you come up with Janet and her story?" Her eyes brighten as she responds. "Janet actually originates remotely from an experience of mine and the question of how does a person make it after their life has been impacted by making wrong choices and the consequences.

I wanted to write a story that some women could identify with and also send the message that it's not

impossible to move on in life after a setback"

I nod in understanding. "The story of Brandy and Tyrone are almost tragic. What made you decide to go in the direction that you did versus the more predictable conclusion?" Netta takes a sip of her coffee beverage. "Actually I was going the predictable route for their story, but as the story progressed, I decided to inject more excitement and suspense into the story."

I smile. "You certainly did. I haven't touched the interesting mix of Chara, Kevin and Melinda. Chara was a mess! Oh and I don't think I laughed harder when I read about the wedding and Kevin's dancing or when Melinda confronted Tyrone. Priceless!"

Netta laughs. "Yes I had fun writing those chapters." Can we expect to hear more from these characters? You've seemed to have left the door open for a sequel."

She slyly smiles. "Yes I did, and it only gets better!"

My last question for Netta, "What advice do you have for other authors starting out?"

She answers without hesitation. "Never give up."

(Readers can contact Nanette at www.netkient.com on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn or on Goodreads.)