

# Live Before You Die – Daniel Kolenda

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## Live Before You Die: Wake up to God's Will for Your Life

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Below is the text I highlighted from Daniel Kolenda's book, 'Live Before You Die'. These are my raw notes which have not been segmented by chapter.

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Yes, He guides us, but only as we are moving.

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Peter's ministry to the sheep was to be motivated primarily by his love for Christ, not his love for the lambs.

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Many times when we begin to break out of the old patterns and mind-sets that have held us back, rejecting the status quo and looking for higher ground, our greatest opponents are close friends,

The enemy knows how to use those closest to us to bring discouragement.

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Envy and jealousy often make God's children competitors and rivals.

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Gideon was full of imperfections, he was not esteemed highly in the eyes of other people, and he was a downright loser in his own eyes.

When Gideon looked in the mirror, all he could see were disadvantages and shortcomings.

"The Lord said to him, Surely I will be with you"

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The word hosanna itself, which means "save, please" in Aramaic.

The nation of Israel as a whole rejected their Messiah because He did not fit into their preconceived expectations.

Preconceptions produce misconceptions that can blind us to what is obvious,

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Trust that God has a plan He is trying to reveal to you.

The full revelation of God's will rarely come as a sudden epiphany. He calls to us to see if we will follow even without knowing all the details.

God calls us to small things before He calls us to great things.

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God does not reward us based on how many people we lead to Jesus. He rewards us based on our obedience and faithfulness to His call and will.

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If God has called you to do something, you will almost certainly encounter a significant amount of struggle.

This stage of struggle is the proving ground of faithfulness,

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God uses the journey to teach us faith, to refine our character, and to equip us for the greater challenges that lie ahead.

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When God's gift and grace are resting on a person for a certain task or calling, he is able to do with joy what would seem difficult or even impossible to others.

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guarantee that we will never have to live with negative consequences of our actions.

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To repent means to "turn," to change one's mind and direction.

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Our comforts and conveniences have often made us complacent and indifferent to a dying world.

Your calling is to propel God's kingdom forward in whatever sphere you find yourself.

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He has blessed us so we can be a blessing.

If you aren't willing to bless God's kingdom with a cheerful heart, don't be surprised if He takes those means and gives them to someone who will be a good steward.

But Esau "despised his birthright" (Gen. 25:34). God passed over Esau because of his disregard and found in his younger brother a willing heart.

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In an attempt to find meaning, we tell ourselves that we are doing it all for our children, but what do we teach our children? From us they learn to add zeros together, and thus they inherit the same meaningless futility with which we have lived.

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Christianity is counter intuitive. It is a paradox and preaches a message that is exactly opposite the world's wisdom.

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What Jesus was teaching was Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs in reverse.

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When our love for the King becomes our paramount incentive, then and only then do we have things in the right order.

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The Roman soldiers seized Jesus and crucified Him, but they could not take His life, for He had already laid it down in Gethsemane.

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when the kingdom of God comes into contact with the fallen world, we begin to see heavenly effects: the sick are healed, the dead are raised, bondages are broken, and the supernatural begins to happen.

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discovering God's will for our lives is not simply a destination to be reached; it is a posture of the heart!

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Hearing the voice of God is actually hearing the voice of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

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Prayer is not about making lengthy lists of requests for God and continually chattering for as long as possible. Sometimes the best thing you can do is to be quiet and listen!

Learn to become quiet in the presence of the Lord, in a posture of humility and awe, and tune your spiritual ears to His voice.

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God will never tell you to do anything that is contrary to His Word.

God is not the author of confusion

Jesus's voice comes with an awareness of heavenly peace. In contrast, the devil uses urgency, pressure, and fear to drive people.

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we must identify our desires and self-interests and, as an intentional act of our will, neutralize them.

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Your part is to get into gear, get off your backside, and get moving.

“God will lift you out of the deepest pit, but He won't lift you out of an easy chair—you have to do that yourself.”

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There are many people who are ineffective and unfruitful, not because they are not anointed, gifted, or equipped but simply because they are lazy.

- nobody thinks he is lazy.
- laziness is choosing to evade or compromise critical action - not all activity is created equal.

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The comfortable compromise, on the other hand, always consists of more talking than walking. It allows us to stay safe, makes us feel good about ourselves, and keeps us busy, but it produces very few actual results.

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Courage is not the absence of fear.

Courage is the willingness to face fear.

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Satan knows that if he can inject unbelief into our spirits, he can effectively rob us of God's best for our lives.

The reason unbelief is so dangerous is that not only is it a sin in itself, but it also can be a gateway for other sins as well.

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Faith has the potential to move mountains, but unbelief will nullify the power of faith.

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Procrastination is the devil's best friend. The devil knows that delayed obedience is disobedience.

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We are like sheep—prone to wander and amazingly stupid. We are like donkeys—stubborn and willful. We are like peacocks—proud and vain. We are quick to analyze and rationalize but slow to obey. We are masters of procrastination and experts at justification. Making excuses comes naturally to us, but simple obedience seems so difficult.

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Just as rebellion blocks God's blessings, so obedience releases them.

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Perhaps the greatest sin of humanity is the sin of self-will.

God views rebellion and stubbornness as witchcraft, iniquity, and idolatry!

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when we find ourselves in a wilderness experience, we immediately begin rebuking the devil. But it may actually be God leading us into the wilderness.

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It is one thing to be filled with the Holy Spirit and have the potential to do great things for God. It is another thing altogether to have walked through the valley of the shadow of death and to emerge victorious on the other side.

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When you have been through the crisis of faith and experienced God's provision and power, when He has brought you up out of the miry pit and set your feet on the rock, when He has proven His faithfulness to you over and over again, you will emerge from the wilderness knowing and walking in the power of the Holy Spirit that is within you.

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God needed only one day to take Israel out of Egypt but forty years to take Egypt out of Israel.

The testimony everyone wants to have includes a test no one wants to endure.

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Just do something. Do anything. It may seem totally meaningless at the present time, but do it anyway.

Even a small seed planted in faith can become the inception of fulfilling what God has called you to do.

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God is not looking for people who have good intentions for what they will do if He blesses them. Rather, He is looking to bless people who are already being faithful and obedient with what they have.

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There are times when God will intentionally hold back something He wants to give you simply because you have not stopped to inquire of Him.

A person who is seeking God's will is actively asking for God's direction, looking for opportunities to use what is already in his hand, helping others fulfill their God-given visions, and being faithful wherever he finds himself at the moment.

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Asa called upon the help of foreign armies instead of the Lord, and as a result, he inherited perpetual war. He called on the aid of doctors instead of the Lord when he became sick, and as a result, he inherited death.

God was insulted by Asa's disregard and gave him over to that which he feared most.

'Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind and makes flesh his strength, and whose heart turns away from the LORD.'

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“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart”

God always prepares us for the things He has in store for us.

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Sometimes people miss something that is right in front of them because what they are looking for does not appear the way they expected it to.

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The important thing to remember is that you are planting seeds right now that will determine what you will reap tomorrow.

Be careful what you plant in this season because you will eat it in the next.

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If you are to go the distance and fulfill God’s will for your life, you must have integrity, focus, and perseverance.

Having integrity means minding the small things

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Murder was condemned under the law, but Jesus said hatred is murder. Adultery was condemned under the law, but Jesus said lust is adultery.

Having integrity means being brutal with sin.

Integrity requires ferocity and resolve.

Having integrity means doing the right thing, even when it means standing alone.

Having integrity means doing the right thing even when no one is looking.

Character is who are you when no one is looking. That is the real you.

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Sin begins as a cute little pet, but it grows into a beast that is never satisfied.

Don’t Get Distracted

Never Give Up

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Once you have your assignment from God, then you have to stand in your field and fight until God gives the victory.

You can be extraordinarily gifted, talented, anointed, and blessed, but without persistence you will have little impact because the great victories are always on the other side of great battles.

Victory comes to those who press through severe battles to the other side without quitting.

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When it comes to fulfilling God's will for your life, perseverance is not an option; it is an imperative.

At the end may we not be found sitting in front of a television, but may we be found with our boots strapped on in the field where God has assigned us. Never give up! Never retreat! Never surrender to the enemy!