

King's Way Church
Message for Feb. 11, 2007
Written by Roger Miller

TRIPLE O OFFENSE
JEREMIAH 1:4-10

Football isn't played at all like I thought when I was a kid. I assumed that both teams showed up on Sunday, and when your team got the ball the quarterback would say, "OK, let's try this play—maybe it will fool them...OK, that didn't work, so let's try this play—maybe it will fool them."

Every play that didn't result in a touchdown, I assumed, was a failed play. I knew nothing about playing for field position, or time of possession, or controlling the line of scrimmage. I just thought you should try to score every play. After all, that was how we did it on the playground.

Some people approach their life like we played schoolyard football. Every play is a whole new game—just one desperate attempt after another to find something that works. It doesn't have to be that way. You can follow a game plan that will turn your life into one long championship season. That's because God has a game plan for your life. So today, I want to look at three strategic game-plan principles.

1. YOUR JOB IS TO RUN THE PLAYS, NOT CALL THEM. (v. 5)

God had a game plan for Jeremiah's life. He appointed Jeremiah to accomplish a certain task. Jeremiah's decision to become a prophet wasn't the result of weighing his options as he visited various booths on career day. His decision to become a prophet was based upon God's plan for his life. God has a plan for your life, too. Before you were born, you were set apart to do something uniquely designed for you. God has a game plan for you.



The **key to success is not in** figuring out what you do best and maximizing your talents. The **key to success is not in** finding out what you enjoy doing the most and learning how to make a living at it. The key to success and ultimate satisfaction is discovering God's plan for your life and doing it. **That's the key distinction I want you to pick up on.** God's game plan is something you **discover**, not something you **decide**. We need to learn to see ourselves as players on the team, and we need to learn to see God as the one who is calling the plays.

How do I discover it? How do I find God's plan for my life?? You do it the same way Jeremiah did it. You listen to God. You let him tell you. I'm not talking about hearing an audible voice; I'm talking about hearing his voice through the words of Scripture. (If you do hear an audible voice, it will be consistent with what God has revealed through his Word.) I'm also talking about hearing his voice through Godly counsel. Proverbs says...

Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed. (Proverbs 15:22)

a. When I listen, God speaks. When I ask for direction, God leads me. (James 1:5)

b. I will know what I need to know when I need to know it.

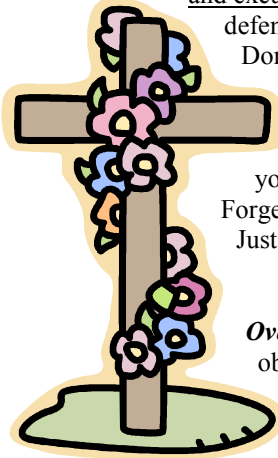
In every group there are at least a few kids who can't focus on what's happening now because they're too focused on what's happening next. That's the way some people live their lives. They want to know everything now. In my experience, that's not the way God leads us. A coach's plan for the fourth quarter might differ somewhat from his plan for the first quarter.

He will give you as much direction as you need to do his will. He will give you as much light on your path as you need to follow his footsteps.

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2. THE BEST DEFENSE IS A GOOD OFFENSE. (v. 6)

He's saying, "I don't know how to do what you're asking me to do, and even if I did, I'm not qualified to do it." Objections and excuses. I can imagine what Jeremiah was thinking, though. I'm sure Jeremiah was wondering, "How can I defend myself against those who challenge my calling?" Do you know what God said? He said, "You don't. Don't defend yourself. I don't want you to play defense, I want you to play offense. Do what I called you to do." (v. 7-8)



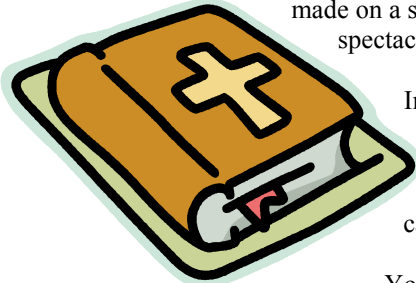
The same goes for you. No doubt there are many of you here today who have a sense of God's call on your life, but his call is being obstructed by your objections and excuses. God is saying, "Don't make excuses. Forget your objections. Don't say that you can't do it, and don't get side-tracked by what other people might say. Just start doing what I have called you to do."

Here's a principle I want you to pick up on, we can call it the **Triple O** offense : **Obedience Overcomes Obstacles.** Make no mistake, when you decide to follow God's game plan, you will face obstacles—countless obstacles—along the way. It's not a smooth ride. But obedience will get you through them. Staying faithful to him will get you through them. Remaining in his presence will get you through the obstacles that cross your path. (v.8)

The best defense against obstacles, against critics, against your own fears, is a good offense. By "offense" I mean being focused on doing what God has called you to do. The best defense in life is a good offense. Obedience overcomes obstacles.

3. EVERY PLAY IS A CRUCIAL PLAY. (v. 9-10)

Any coach will tell you that games are not won or lost on a single play. Seasons don't ride on a single play. Careers aren't made on a single play. Every play matters. Yes, in the highlights we see that some plays are more spectacular than others, but every play is a crucial play.



In our lives, every day is a crucial day. And the most crucial day is this day. This play. Today. Today I appoint you. Not, "someday you'll be a prophet; someday you'll have a call on your life." But, "**Today** I appoint you." When you discover God's plan for your life, then this day is the day to start moving in that direction. With every single play, you're moving toward the call that he has placed on your life.

You can say, "God, whatever it is you have for me to do, I will do it. And with your help, I will live every day like it is the most important play of the whole game."

CONCLUSION

There are three words that summarize going with God's game plan in your life. **Consistently surrendering** to his **leadership**. **Consistently**, because every day is a crucial day. **Surrendering**, through active obedience. To his **Leadership**, because he calls the plays.

In a year or two—and possibly as early as this July—many of us will be hard-pressed to remember who played in last week's game. That's because it's just a game. It doesn't have any eternal significance. Your life is different. It does matter for eternity what you accomplish. If you try to call the plays for yourself, you will lose. Let him make that call. Consistently surrender to his leadership. Let him turn your life into a championship season.

"Our vision is to make a change in our community by being a **life-giving** church that is **true** to the Bible and **relevant** today by helping You find **Your way!**"

-King's Way Church

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