

A person wearing a blue hoodie is shown from the back, with their arms raised in a gesture of triumph or success. The background is a vibrant sunset sky with warm orange and yellow tones near the horizon, transitioning to cooler blue and purple hues at the top. The sun is partially obscured by clouds on the left side of the frame.

SUCCESS!

“Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you’re gonna get.” Forrest Gump

“Life is like a taxi. The meter just keeps a-ticking whether you are getting somewhere or just standing still.” Lou Erickson

**“Life is a grindstone. Whether it grinds us down or polishes us up depends on us.”
Thomas L. Holdcroft**

“Life is rather like a tin of sardines - we’re all of us looking for the key.” Alan Bennett

“Life is like an onion: You peel it off one layer at a time, and sometimes you weep.” Carl Sandburg

“All we are is dust in the wind.” Kansas

“Life is just one damn thing after another.” Ernest Hemingway

Do I have any significant purpose?

Does my life matter?

**Paul's ministry was characterized by:
Truth, Grace, Humility and Power**

Paul sought first the kingdom of God:

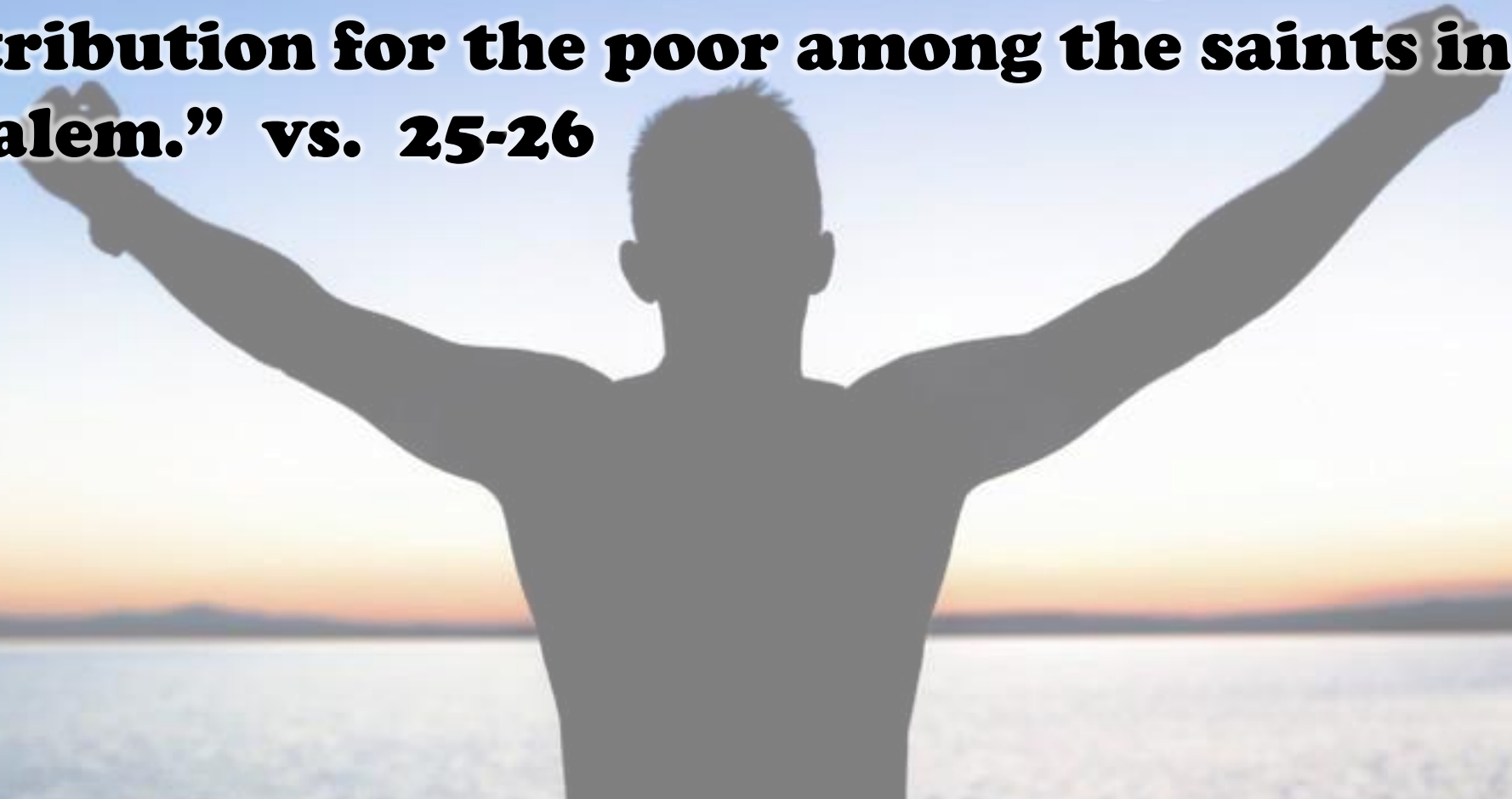
1. He Was Driven by the Word

2. He Planned with Flexibility



3. HE LOVED THE FAMILY OF GOD. Vs. 25-29

“But now, I am going to Jerusalem serving the saints. For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem.” vs. 25-26



“So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.” Gal. 6:10

“And there was not a needy person among them, for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales, and lay them at the apostles’ feet; and they would be distributed to each, as any had need.” Acts 4:34-35

“Yes, they were pleased to do so, and they are indebted to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual things, they are indebted to minister to them also in material things. Therefore, when I have finished this, and have put my seal on this fruit of theirs, I will go on by way of you to Spain. And I know that when I come to you, I will come in the fulness of the blessing of Christ.” vs. 27-29

**“He who is gracious to a poor man lends to the Lord, and He will repay him for his good deed.”
Prov. 19:17**

**“We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoever has the world’s goods, and beholds his brother in need and closes his heart against him, how does the love of God abide in him? Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.”
1 John 3:16-18**

4. HE WAS COVERED WITH PRAYER. Vs. 30-33

“Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me.” vs. 30



“That I may be delivered from those who are disobedient in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may prove acceptable to the saints; so that I may come to you in joy by the will of God and find refreshing rest in your company. Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen.” vs. 31-33

“For God, whom I serve in my spirit in the preaching of the gospel of His Son, is my witness as to how unceasingly I make mention of you always in my prayers making request...” Rom. 1:9-10

“...He Himself gives to all life and breath and all things; and He made from one, every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times, and the boundaries of their habitation, that they should seek God...” Acts 17:25-27a

**“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”
Eph. 2:10**

APPLICATION FOR ME:

“The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person. For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil.”
Eccles. 12:13-14

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SUCCESS!