The D.I.V.A. Principle

Divine Inspiration for Victorious Attitude

GET YOUR LIFE TOGETHER!

By Michelle McKinney Hammond

23 IN

Week 1

DAY 1

Welcome to Day 1 of Get Your Life Together.

And welcome back to the last segment of our program. Over the past two months, we've been discussing the power and strength of a true diva, as modeled by the scripture's Proverb's 31 Woman. We've also discussed the Diva Principles you can use to get your act together. This month, we're going to step away from what's happening inside of you to talk about the life you've created for yourself – and the life you want to create.

Once a diva gets her head and her heart together, she's ready to focus her energies outward and get her life together so that she can fulfill her diva destiny to enjoy the fulfilling, meaningful and prosperous life God has created her for.

The key is this: A true diva lives intentionally. She designs her life, her home, her career, her relationships and her personal time to suit her needs, rather than bending her needs to fit whatever comes down the line.

She doesn't wait for things to happen to her – she makes things happen. And in doing so, she chooses the time and the day of their happening to suit her own and God's purposes.

Finally, she steps up and claims her birthright. God has created her to be a queen among men and she behaves accordingly, both in her expectations of others and of herself. She may be demanding of herself and others and determined in her pursuits, but she is also gracious, forgiving, transparent, devout and loving in equal measure.

This intentionally created life is clearly demonstrated in Proverbs 31 by the level of order, organization and focused intent our Proverbial diva imposes on her habits and activities. She knows what she wants and, more importantly, she knows what she's capable of...and she accepts nothing less than the best, whether that's in the effort she puts out or in the results she creates.

Today I want you to meditate on what I've said and ask yourself the following questions:

- What areas of your life do you really have all together, areas where you know what you want and are taking clear steps to get it?
- And in what areas do you feel like you're floundering a bit...or a lot?

• How well do your actions and choices match my description of queenly diva behavior?

Figure out what and where you need to get your life together, and we'll start working on that tomorrow.

DAY 2

Welcome to Day 2 of Get Your Life Together.

A diva knows that getting her act together isn't something she can do once and be done with it. A truly diva-rific life is a constant juggling act of self-care, spiritual devotion, relationship maintenance and good old-fashioned elbow-grease.

If you want to truly get your life together, you have to commit to the life-long practice of intentionally behaving like a diva in thought, word and deed. Diva-hood isn't just magically bestowed upon you because you rack up enough points or something. It's a choice you make every single day, from the moment you get up until the minute your head hits the pillow.

When a diva first wakes up, she intentionally chooses to put herself into a diva mindset. She wakes up knowing exactly what she hopes to accomplish that day, even if it's just to lay around and take it easy, and she focuses her heart, her mind and her soul to that purpose. She has already made the appropriate preparations to achieve her goals and has allocated her time and her energy accordingly. She attends to her purpose with focus and determination, while still maintaining a comfortable buffer of flexibility just in case things don't go to plan. And at the end of the day, she takes time to review how things went, prepare for tomorrow and see to her own self-care.

Being consistent every day for a lifetime results in a diva-rific life you can be proud of, rather than one you're just happy to have made it through.

Your challenge today is to:

• Determine where you are behaving as if getting your act together is a one-time affair, instead of a daily choice.

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- What life areas are you living as if there's some sort of "finish line" to cross instead of a lifelong, ever-changing performance?
- More importantly, where did this mindset come from, and what challenges or obstacles is it creating for you?

Work on that, and I'll see you tomorrow.

Welcome to Day 3 of Get Your Life Together.

As we discussed yesterday, a diva knows that living a diva lifestyle requires constant maintenance. But she also knows that the key to true Diva-hood is to work *smarter*, not *harder*. Part of her Diva-tude is the intentional pursuit of better, more effective ways of doing what needs to be done so she has more time and energy to devote to her friends and family, her personal enjoyment of life and her spiritual growth.

For example, she organizes her home so that there's a dedicated place to put all of her stuff, rather than wasting her time hunting for her purse or her keys every time she needs to leave the house. Instead of doing everything herself, she delegates tasks to those more capable or better suited, or to those who are ready to take on more responsibility in that area. She plans ahead so that she can respond rather than reacting to whatever life holds for her. And she finds ways to duplicate, simplify or even eliminate actions that would otherwise bog her down.

The best way to get started with this aspect of Diva-hood is to take some time to mentally walk through your day and figure out the areas of your life that could use a "work smarter, not harder" makeover. It's pointless to fix the surface problems unless you also address the root cause of those issues.

- Look at where you regularly find yourself wasting time or getting overwhelmed.
- Check for areas of irritation or friction in your life that crop up over and over again.
- Finally, make sure you pinpoint both the immediate symptoms of the issue and the underlying problem that's creating those symptoms.

Get busy on that, and I'll see you tomorrow.

Welcome to Day 4 of Get Your Life Together.

A diva knows that life is meaningless without her friends and family and invests her resources wisely so that she can create and nurture these connections. She leaves herself plenty of time and energy and carves out space in her life to make room for the people she cares for. And she intentionally designs her life and her home to create a warm, welcoming oasis of fellowship, peace and joy to share with them.

A diva also knows that part of her purpose in God's plan is to invest in and nurture others through mentoring, encouragement and support. She is unstinting with her gifts and tireless in her advocacy of those who rely on her. She is willing to pitch in and get her hands dirty, but also knows when to step back and let others stand on their own. She holds tightly to the ones she loves when they need her most, but at the same time she leaves plenty of room for those in her care to stretch and grow and even fly away when the time is right.

And above all, she doesn't begrudge the demands of her friends and family, because she knows that her time with them is all too short. She never passes up the chance to make a connection, to have some fun together, to offer the right word at the right time, or to simply say, "I love you." She doesn't hesitate to offer whatever hospitality and love she can, when she can, even if the situation isn't perfect. She knows that open arms and a heart filled with love will always be more important than being able to offer a perfectly kept house or a fancy dinner.

Take a look at your own life.

- In what ways does your current lifestyle support your ability to nurture and enjoy your relationships the way you'd like to?
- In what ways does it prevent you from doing so?

Work on those questions today, and I'll see you tomorrow.

Welcome to Day 5 of Get Your Life Together.

A diva knows that her Heavenly Father has given her life, her gifts and her blessings for her to invest and be fruitful in accordance with His plan. She knows that she is responsible for making the most of this amazing gift.

A diva's true calling, above anything else, is to put her gifts to work creating a life of value, service and ministry for the glory of God. In return, she knows that she will reap both the earthly and the heavenly harvest of her work. She puts her hand to the work with a glad heart and a worshipful soul, knowing that she will enjoy the fullness of her years warmed by the sunlight of Gods' grace and fed by the fruits of her labor.

A diva's life is her masterwork. Stone by stone, she builds up her dwelling place by the work of her own hands, binding it with the mortar of her faith and furnishing it with her personality and spirit. Inside, she prepares a hearth-fire of love and grace to provide comfort for herself and those she cares for and sets a table with the bountiful results of her dedication. Her roof and walls are sound and keep pests and threats alike at bay.

A diva is never content with *good enough* if she can do better, nor is she willing to let others shoulder her work for her. When her life stands in its final reckoning, she will be able to say with pride that even the smallest piece of it is her own handiwork, and that she is pleased with the result.

Take a look at your own life.

- Where have you invested and maximized the return on your gifts, and where have you let them lie fallow?
- Are you proud of what you've created?
- What needs to happen to make your life a "dream home" you'd be thrilled to spend the rest of your days furnishing and sharing with others?

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Answer those questions today, and I'll see you next week.

DIGGING DEEPER

What areas of your life do you need to be more intentional about?

- What are your top three priorities? Develop a plan on moving forward while prayerfully seeking Gods' direction.
- What disciplines do you need to put in place in order to institute order in your life?
- What disciplines do you need to put in place on a daily basis?
- What three areas do you need to organize? How will organization free you up to accomplish more?
- How will you go about becoming more organized?
- What plan can you put in place to spend more quality time with those who are important to you?
- In what ways can you be present in the lives of those you love?
- What priorities need to be shifted to make this occur?
- In what ways can your home be made a haven for others?
- What things can contribute to your lasting legacy now in your relationships and interactions?

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Week 2

DAY 6

Welcome to Day 6 of Get Your Life Together.

This week, we're going to introduce five Diva Principles that will help you get your life together and intentionally rebuild the life you want, starting with purity.

A key trait of a diva is her purity of heart, mind, soul and body. A diva is a divine warrior spirit when it comes to protecting herself and her assets. She knows that, just like water, the Light shines through her best when she is pure and clean of polluting influences, thoughts and actions.

A diva consciously holds herself apart from destructive influences and doesn't let unhealthy or limiting thoughts cloud her mind., nor does she let her emotions impair her judgment.

She sees her body as a temple, and carefully chooses what to eat and how she conducts and treats herself in order to purify and strengthen this physical vessel while avoiding weakening or damaging it. She guards her heart against those who would diminish and degrade her and guards herself against its volatile emotions.

She protects her spirit fiercely against those who would tear it down and seeks out influences that can lift her up and inspire her. And she holds a quiet space in her soul at all times so she can hear the word of God.

In doing these things, she views her choices not as sacrifices, but as a personal commitment to excellence and to maintain her ability and readiness to serve God's will.

Your challenge today is to:

• Determine, on a scale of 1-10, with 10 being highest, how well you feel that you are keeping yourself pure in mind, body and spirit?

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• What needs to change to bring your thinking and your actions completely into alignment with this Principle?

Work on those questions today, and I'll see you tomorrow.

Welcome to Day 7 of Get Your Life Together.

Yesterday we talked about the Principle of purity as a way of keeping yourself able and ready to serve God's will. Today we're going to talk about a related Principle, self-investment.

A diva knows that the best investment she can make is in herself. She strives to look her best and present herself in the best possible light, without giving into vanity or shallowness, because she knows others will only value her as highly as she appears to value herself.

She invests in her worldly and her spiritual education, so that she may serve the Lord's will to her utmost. This self-improvement also allows her to make the most of the opportunities and blessings the Lord sends her way, and to enjoy them to the fullest.

A diva doesn't focus on just one or two of her favorite or most natural gifts, either, but rather presents a total package from head to toe and from the inside out. She strives to be as smart as she is glamorous, as well-spoken as she is generous and as compassionate as she is poised. She multiplies her gifts, and so multiplies their blessings in her life.

- On a scale of 1-10, with 10 being highest, think about how well you have invested in yourself?
- Where are you slacking in this Principle, and why?
- What needs to change to bring your thinking and your actions completely into alignment with this Principle?

Work on that today, and I'll see you tomorrow.

DAY 8

Welcome to Day 8 of Get Your Life Together.

Today we're going to talk about a very important principle for getting your life together, and that's creating a full partnership with God.

A diva knows that her life flows more smoothly when God is at her side and she is setting a course under His direction. She enters willingly into partnership with the Lord and opens her heart to him in all things. She understands that the Great Architect has plans for her that are far too complex and subtle for her to comprehend, so the only way to ensure that she hits her cues is to walk hand in hand with him every step of the way.

To create this partnership, a diva spends time in meditation and prayer on a regular basis and calls on Him in her time of need. She listens for His voice in her heart and invites His counsel on her decisions. She views each choice and decision through the lens of her faith and her commitment to God. She knows that with God's hand holding hers she cannot fail, so why should she risk taking even one step without Him? Sure, she might get it right on her own, especially if she's been listening to God for a long time. But why take that chance in the first place, when His counsel is merely a question away?

She chooses God to be not only her co-pilot, but her navigator, her personal assistant, her deepest and greatest true love and her dearest friend. In doing so, she forges a partnership that will guide her path clearly.

- On a scale of 1-10, with 10 being highest, rate how well you feel that you have created a full partnership with God in your life?
- Where are you holding back or going it alone, and why?
- What needs to change to bring your thinking and your actions completely into alignment with this Principle?

Answer these questions today, and I'll see you tomorrow.

DAY 9

Welcome to Day 9 of Get Your Life Together.

The third Diva Principle for getting your life together is hospitality.

A key theme running through every aspect of God's plan is love, joy and connection. A key diva trait is that she makes her heart and her home a hospitable place to connect with friends, family and strangers alike, and to enable them to find rest, comfort and sustenance, whether of the earthly or spiritual kind.

A diva intentionally designs her life, her home and herself to be vessels of hospitality and welcome. She does this in many ways. On the physical level, she keeps a tidy, welcoming home so that she always feels comfortable opening her doors to those who knock. On the spiritual level, she cultivates an attitude of generosity and hospitality and is always willing to share her home or her heart with someone in need. And on the personal level, she makes a point of nurturing, supporting and investing in others so that they may fulfill their own life's purpose.

Through these actions, she creates an earthly reflection of God's love for us and his welcoming embrace. In the process, however, she serves her own heart and soul as well, filling it with the joys and memories of time spent in loving connection with those around her. Standing with her arms, her home and her heart open is the diva's favorite pose, and the joyful laughter of others is music to her ears. She knows that plain bread shared with love is more fulfilling than the grandest meal eaten alone and that no drink is as refreshing as a cup of water passed among friends. She drinks deeply from the well of fellowship and love and is never thirsty.

- On a scale of 1-10, with 10 being highest, how well do you feel that your life reflects this Principle of hospitality?
- What has kept you from practicing this?
- What needs to change to bring your thinking and your actions completely into alignment with this Principle?

Answer those questions today, and I'll see you tomorrow.

DAY 10

Welcome to Day 10 of Get Your Life Together.

To wrap up this week, we're going to talk about an important diva characteristic: savvy industriousness.

Remember the old saying that idle hands are the devil's tools? Well, like all old sayings, there's a kernel of truth at the bottom of it.

Of course, I don't really believe that if you're not busy every moment of the day, you'll wind up doing the devil's work. As I said earlier in the month, working smarter is better than working harder – that's the savvy part of this Principle. On the other hand, boredom, sloth and a lack of direction are the primary gateways to destructive behaviors. Equally important is the fact that if you're not constantly working to improve yourself and your situation, you may not be doing actual evil but you're also not maximizing your ability to serve God's plan, either.

On a practical level, a diva is the mistress of her life, and she runs it like she would any enterprise she was responsible for. She does what needs to be done when it needs to be done, and at the highest level of quality she is capable of. She treasures

industriousness but avoids unnecessary busywork and is always mindful that rest and recreation have their value as well.

A diva is modest in her needs, but not miserly when it's in her interest to invest in improvement. She educates herself so that her decisions are perceptive and sound so that she can manage her home, her finances and her work productively, judiciously and fruitfully. She also educates herself so that she doesn't have to depend on others to take care of what is rightfully her business, or risk being taken advantage of.

To close out this week:

- Rate yourself on a scale of 1-10, with 10 being highest, how well do you feel that your life reflects savvy industriousness?
- What needs to change to bring your thinking and your actions completely into alignment with this Principle?

Work on that, and I'll see you next week.

DIGGING DEEPER

- What is your attitude towards purity? In what ways is purity beneficial to your mind? Body? Spirit?
- Which influences threaten your purity? What do you need to do to secure your purity?
- Which things or influences in your life distract you from investing in yourself as you should?
- What self-defeating thoughts hinder your ability to do the things you need to do to invest in yourself and expand your giftings?

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- How is your intimacy with God? In what ways can you draw closer to create a stronger partnership with Him?
- What things do you have a tendency to take into your own hands without consulting God?
- What types of activities can you do to make your home a place of nurturing and inspiration for others?
- In what ways can you allow God to use your home to bless others?
- In what ways do your work hard? How do you work smart?
- How can you prioritize all you do and streamline your focus to accomplish your tasks/goals in a more efficient way?

Week 3

DAY 11

Welcome to Day 11 of Get Your Life Together.

This week, we are going to focus on taking action to start getting your act and your life together by putting the Diva Principles you learned last week into practice, starting with purity.

You are the guardian of your heart, your mind, your body and your soul. God has given you these precious gifts in trust, to serve His plan and to provide for your earthly and Heavenly reward. It is up to you to keep them secure from contamination, threat or debasement.

Of course, purity means different things to different people, depending on their beliefs, their cultural upbringing and their personal understanding of God's Word. For example, to one person keeping themselves pure may involve wearing specific garments, eating or avoiding certain foods or performing certain actions, while these things matter little to someone else.

But certain core aspects of purity are universal across all cultures and beliefs. Impure influences are things that get in the way of God's work, that debase us or impair our ability to serve His will and keep us apart from Him. On the other hand, anything that restores and maintains His presence in our lives, that heals our wounds and that makes us better vessels of His love and agents of His work is a purifying influence.

Today, I want you to focus on restoring your purity. For each of your four parts – heart, mind, body and soul – I want you to:

- Write down one current source of harm or degradation and what you need to do to eliminate that impurity. It might be a habit, and outside influence, a mindset...anything, really, that diminishes your connection with God.
- For your heart.
- Your mind.
- Your body and soul.
- Your spirit.
- Once you've done that, write down one positive step you can take to purify yourself in this area.

Commit to putting these ideas into action as soon as you can, and I'll see you tomorrow.

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DAY 12

Welcome to Day 12 of Get Your Life Together.

Today your challenge is to invest in yourself. What that means will depend on you and what's going on in your life right now.

I want you to spend some time today meditating on where you need to invest in yourself in order to get your act and your life together and step into your diva birthright. Maybe you want to go back to school or learn a new skill. You might need to upgrade your outdated wardrobe so that you present the best possible face to the world. Investing in yourself can be as simple as tweaking your diet for maximum health, as mundane as organizing your living space or as life-changing as preparing for an entirely new career or lifestyle. It's up to you to decide what your priorities and goals are and to find something you can do to make them happen.

During this meditation

- Begin making a list of things you need to do to shape yourself into a complete
 package that presents you in the best possible light and that best represents the
 fullness of God's creation in you. Focus on the gaps where who you are and
 what you do doesn't match up with who you know you can be and what you know
 you can do. Write it down. Write down what needs to shift.
- Choose one idea and put it into action today if you can, as soon as possible if that's not feasible.
- Make a commitment to do this meditation on a regular basis, perhaps monthly or on certain holidays or other special occasions, and to regularly engage in trying new ways of investing in yourself.

I'll see you tomorrow.

DAY 13

Welcome to Day 13 of Get Your Life Together.

Today you're going to start building a stronger partnership with God.

When you are living in full partnership with God, every step, every choice and every thought is shared with Him. But this partnership isn't based on outward displays of piety. It's more like having your best friend hanging out with you 24/7. Instead of feeling guilty over a bad choice or an unkind word, for example, you have a compassionate and understanding friend to share your disappointment with and to help you do better next time. Eventually, His presence will be so thoroughly interwoven in your life and your intent will so closely mirror His own that you automatically make a better choice or speak a kinder word without thinking.

But this partnership is also about seeing yourself as an agent in service to God's will and doing your best to hold up your end of the deal. Think about how you would act if a friend gave you their grocery money and trusted you to shop for them. Would you blow their budget buying treats for yourself or choose items based on what *you* think they should be eating? Or would you take great care to think about what they would enjoy, and to spend their money responsibly so as to get the most out of it? Being a full partner with God means getting to a place where you feel this way about the gift of life He has entrusted to you. A place where you are working alongside God to fulfill His plan out of love for Him and your own personal enjoyment of the work he has entrusted you to do.

To help you get there:

- Start making a list of things you could do to form a stronger relationship with God and to bring your life into full partnership with Him.
- Choose one item to start working on today and commit to continually working on this part of your life until you feel the synergy of your partnership with him.

I'll see you tomorrow.

DAY 14

Welcome to Day 14 of Get Your Life Together.

Choosing to be more hospitable is one of the best ways to get your life on track and running the way you want it to run. Why? Because the things that tear our lives apart and that tear us down are far more powerful and pervasive when we're alone, isolated and caught up in the echo chamber of our own unchallenged thoughts.

There's an adage in social and personal development fields that says you are the average of your five closest friends, and this explains why building and nurturing strong, positive connections is a key step toward getting your life in order. The people you surround yourself with provide reality checks to your inner dialog. They inspire you and motivate you to make the right choice and to be the best person you can be. They provide examples and role models that you can learn from and they encourage you to behave better yourself as an example to them. In short, they keep you from descending to the depths you might go to when no one is watching, and it feels like no one cares.

Of course, you have to be choosy about who you allow into your inner circle – negative influences can be as strong or even stronger than positive ones. Just remember that maxim about becoming the average of the people you spend time with, and intentionally seek out people whose lives you want to emulate.

But in order to create and maintain those positive relationships in the first place, you have to create an attitude, a physical environment and a lifestyle that supports and nurtures those connections. So today your challenge is to:

- Make a list of three things you can do on a physical level,
- Three things you can do on the spiritual level

• And three things you can do on a personal level to create a haven for others in your home, in your heart and in your actions. Then start putting them into action.

We'll talk tomorrow.

DAY 15

Welcome to Day 15 of Get Your Life Together.

To wrap up this week, we're going to look at how you can use savvy industriousness to enrich your life and get your act together.

Since the Proverbs 31 Woman is our textbook role model for this Diva Principle, the first thing I want you to do today is to re-read Proverbs 31 and think about the actions of the woman it describes.

Set aside some time today to meditate on her example and compare it to what you are currently doing with your God-given gifts. Think about how this original Diva demonstrates savvy industry in everything she does, whether it's a professional undertaking, the management of her home, or the care of her family. How she uses this Principle to intentionally create and maintain the life and the lifestyle she wants for herself and her family. And how she uses it to further the will of God through her every action.

- During this meditation, think about where you are using your gifts to support your dreams, your responsibilities and priorities, and how you might be able to kick it up a notch and maximize both your efforts and your results. Likewise, think about where you may be playing a smaller game or just outright slacking off, and why you're settling for less in these areas.
- After you've finished your meditation, make a list of things you need to improve in your life and ways you'd like to try to make the most of your gifts and of your life. See how many ways you can come up with to employ savvy industriousness to achieve these goals, and start putting those ideas into practice.

Remember, you can only get out of life what you're willing to put into it. Use the example of the Proverbs 31 Woman to remind yourself of what you're capable of and what you're consciously leaving on the table, and to determine if you're satisfied with those answers. We'll talk next week.

DIGGING DEEPER

- What does purity look like to you?
- What things threaten your purity of heart, mind, soul, and body?
- What can you do to ensure your purity?
- What things have you overlooked or taken for granted about yourself?
- In what areas do you need to invest in yourself?
- What is your action plan for upgrading your self care?
- Describe your relationship with God?
- What would you like your relationship with God to look like?
- What things can you do to develop closer intimacy with Him?
- What things will you put into place to begin to work on this?
- Describe your three closest friends. What you like about them. What you don't like.
- Examine if your life looks like that of your friends. Which parts would you like to emulate? Which parts would you not like?
- What things do you need to do to nurture the type of life you want?
- How industrious are you?
- In what areas of your life are more attention to detail needed?
- In what areas could you be more savvy?
- How can your lifestyle be a reflection of God's will for your life?
- How does your life influence those around you?

Week 4

DAY 16

Welcome to Day 16 of Get Your Life Together.

In this final week, you're going to move from putting the Diva Principles into action to becoming a Divine Diva from the inside out. And the first step is being pure. Think about the difference between a glass of pure, clean water and one dredged up from a muddy, polluted stream. The impure water would hydrate you as well as the clean stuff, so why not drink it? Because you know that it's full of nasty chemicals and germs that will make you very sick. And if you chose to drink it every day, you'd quickly find yourself too sick, too tired and too overwhelmed trying to keep up with the physical assaults to do more than just survive. And that's if you're lucky.

The same is true of your own personal purity. An impure mind is too heavily infected with negative attitudes and ideas to think clearly, while an impure heart constantly churns with strong emotions that threaten to swamp good judgment and critical thinking. An impure soul distances itself from God from guilt and an unwillingness to give up its destructive habits. And an impure body is sick, tired and debilitated.

Put them all together and you get someone unfit to serve their role in God's plan, incapable of feeling joy or love, and unable to see the destructive nature of their choices until it's too late.

The best way to keep your heart, mind, body and soul pure is to proactively set boundaries that prevent negative influences from getting in in the first place. For example, you might avoid watching television shows that glorify ungodly lifestyles, eliminate unhealthy food from your shopping list or let friends know that you refuse to hear or engage in gossip.

Your challenge today is to:

- Make a list of ideas for protecting all four parts of yourself.
- Focus on choices or areas where you tend to fall prey to polluting influences most easily.

• Then make a commitment to acting on these ideas, starting today.

We'll talk tomorrow.

Welcome to Day 17 of Get Your Life Together.

The second step to becoming a Divine Diva is to be invested in yourself from the inside out.

Do you ever wonder why people with such amazing potential often fail to do the things they need to do to take advantage of their potential? It's because they won't invest in something they personally can't see the value of.

And the same is true for yourself. You won't invest in yourself unless you can clearly see your own worth and feel that your life has value to others and to the Lord. After all, you're smart enough not to throw good money after bad or loan something of value to someone who is untrustworthy. So why would you spend time, energy and money improving yourself if you don't think you're worth it?

Today I want you intentionally and consciously focus on seeing your value by looking at the role you play in God's plan and the impact you have on others. If you're going to feel comfortable investing in yourself, you need to spend some time investigating proof of your own value until you're satisfied deep in your heart that you are not only worth investing in, but that not doing so is tantamount to passing up a bet on a sure thing.

To do this, I want you to spend some time today meditating on three things:

- One, the role you've played in your own success.
- Two, the role you have played or are currently playing in the success of someone you care about.
- And three, the things you've done in service to the Lord.
- Finally, meditate on how much more effective you could be in all three areas if you were to invest in yourself so that you look, feel and act your best at all times, instead of just "when it's necessary," so that you are operating at your peak capacity at all times.

Write down any ideas or thoughts that come up during your time of meditation, and I'll see you tomorrow.

Welcome to Day 18 of Get Your Life Together.

Every Divine Diva feels natural and comfortable in her role as a full partner to the Lord. After all, God has put her on earth to be His vessel and to do His will. He is willing to give His all for her. All she has to do is return the same.

In order to be a Divine Diva yourself, you have to be able to claim your power and place in the world as a full partner in His plan. And part of doing that means being able to recognize and accept that God created you to be worthy and powerful enough in your own right to *be* a full partner with Him. Because while humility and modesty clothe you in God's grace, false humility and false modesty are false servants and serve only to diminish your own value and deny His will.

False modesty and false humility are merely the echoes of fear, insecurity and low selfesteem – or worse yet, a sanctimonious or self-righteous spirit incapable of grace, generosity or flexibility. They're the voices that tell you that you're not capable of being a full partner with God, that you're not powerful enough and certainly not good enough to claim that elevated status and that to think otherwise is pure fiction. These things keep you from comprehending the power that comes from your relationship with God. And so they limit you to what you believe you can do, rather than allowing you to rise up into what He has created you to be.

Spend some time today meditating on this message.

- Where are you holding back from full partnership with God because you don't feel worthy to step into that role?
- Where are false modesty and false humility preventing you from claiming your power and acting as a full partner?
- In what ways do you feel inadequate to assume this role, and why?

Write down the answers to those questions, along with any other thoughts or ideas that come up during this meditation, and I'll see you back here tomorrow.

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Welcome to Day 19 of Get Your Life Together.

One of a Divine Diva's primary roles is to serve God by creating and being a safe haven for those around her. She knows that hospitality isn't just a function of having an open door or setting an extra seat at the table, but that it's a function of being hospitable, welcoming, compassionate, generous and nurturing in thought and deed, as well.

She intentionally chooses to act so that her very presence creates an oasis from the troubles of the world. She draws on God's divine grace to give her strength enough to serve her own needs with plenty left over to take care of those around her. She cultivates a loving heart so that she can share that love with others. She works on developing a spiritual strength so that she can be a rock for others. And she seeks to achieve a state of calm, dignified grace that takes the long view and doesn't let the turbulence of troubled times disturb the oasis of peace and harmony she has created for herself and those she loves.

She embodies hospitality, love and companionship no matter what her situation or circumstances. Even if she's standing in the middle of a disaster area, or is without a penny to her name to provide material comfort, her presence soothes and restores like a cup of cool water and even the meanest meal she can scrape up is seasoned with love and fellowship. She shares what she has unsparingly, knowing that God will provide and will not let her suffer for her generosity.

Your challenge for today is to:

- Meditate on how your current attitude, behaviors, habits and inner self stacks up to this ideal of hospitality embodied.
- Reflect on the idea of being an oasis of rest and comfort, and what you have to do or change to create that oasis not simply as a physical environment, but as something you are in and of yourself.

Write down whatever comes up during this mediation and I'll see you tomorrow.

Welcome to Day 20 of Get Your Life Together.

The final step in becoming a Divine Diva is to apply your God-given savvy to everything you do.

One of the biggest obstacles to Diva-hood is the belief that the things you need to take care of are beyond your ability. This is not diva thinking. A savvy diva is smart enough to recognize that just because it needs to be done doesn't men she has to do it all herself.

If she can't manage the math involved in doing her finances, then the savvy diva educates herself on how to find a reliable and trustworthy financial planner, and how to tell whether she's doing a good job or not. And if she ends up burning boiled eggs even after several lessons, she knows it's time to delegate the cooking duties or figure out a way to fit prepared food into her budget.

God has given you everything you need to be the mistress of your life, including the ability to work smarter, not harder. The purpose of savvy is to help you to make the most of your gifts and your strengths, as well as to know how and when to work around your weaknesses.

But savvy doesn't just serve you – it's a vital tool for serving others, as well. A Divine Diva is a true leader, and every good leader knows instinctively that the best way to fail is to try and do everything themselves. And this is a two-pronged failure, because it narrows the scope of what can be done to one person's abilities as well as preventing others from growing and discovering their full potential. What identifies a true leader is their ability to delegate tasks so as to expand the horizon of what's possible, to put others in positions of trust and responsibility that match their own strengths and gifts and to focus their own energy on inspiring those that serve to greater heights.

Your final challenge is to write down any areas of your life you've given up on managing or handling, or that you've let get out of control. Try to come up with as many creative solutions for mastering this area as possible. Then do the same for any situation in which you are or wish to be a leader. Get with some girlfriends or your coaching group, if you need help.

Finally, before we part ways, I want to encourage you to take some time and celebrate your Diva-hood! You've done a lot of work to get where you are now, and sure, there's a lot more work to be done. But you've already taken on the mantle of a Divine Diva just by showing up and accepting these challenges. Take time to acknowledge that courageous decision. I look forward to serving the Lord alongside all you Divine Divas,

and I wish you the very best in everything you do. Thanks for joining me in this program. Goodbye.

DIGGING DEEPER

- What are your personal triggers that threaten your purity?
- What boundaries will you put in place to safeguard your mind, your heart, your spirit?
- Examine your value through Gods' eyes. How can you be an effective tool in His hands in the lives of others?
- What type of impact would you like to make on others?
- How will you go about impacting others for good?
- In what ways can you partner with God to be a part of His plan?
- What gifts will you utilize?
- How will you go about becoming an oasis for others?
- What ideas will you have to let go of in order to delegate tasks to others?
- How will mastering the art of delegation be liberating for you?
- What divine inspiration will you incorporate moving forward in order to master and keep a victorious attitude?

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What things will you set in motion in order to get your life together?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

THE DIVA PRINCIPLE GETTING SMART ABOUT LIFE, LOVE AND MEN THE POWER OF BEING A WOMAN A WOMAN'S GOTTA DO WHAT A WOMANS GOTTA DO HOW TO BE BLESSED AND HIGHLY FAVORED WHY DO I SAY YES WHEN I NEED TO SAY NO HOW TO GET PAST DISAPPOINTMENT HOW TO GET THE BEST OUT OF YOUR MAN HE SPEAKS, I LISTEN Available on Amazon/Kindle



