

Faith and the 3 "P's"

Overcoming Obstacles with
Prayer, Persistence, & Positive Thinking



Sheila Stewart

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and
the
3
“P’s”**

**Overcoming Obstacles with Prayer, Persistence and
Positive Thinking**

By

SHEILA STEWART

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This book is dedicated to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Without You, "My Sweet Savior," I am nothing!

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Introduction

Faith can take you places you have never dreamed. Hebrews 11:1 declares, “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” Faith reaches beyond the natural realms of man’s imagination, and extends into the supernatural realms of God’s anointing. Faith moves mountains. If you believe God can do anything, He will. God moves for the man who lives and operates in faith. Hebrews 11:6 says, “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

I started dreaming a long time ago – at age 7. As I shared my childhood dreams with my grandmother, she lovingly looked at me and said, “Sheila, you can be anything you want to be if you live by Faith and the 3 “P’s.” Wide eyed and somewhat bewildered, I replied, “Faith and the 3 “P’s,” Grandma, what’s that?” Like any typical seven year old, I was curious. Was my grandmother finally going to tell me the great secret that had made her life a success? Not success as man views success, but success as God sees it. The kind of success that happens, when you take the limits off God. You know, the kind of success that allows God to be in complete dominion over your life.

It never dawned on me that what my grandmother was telling me, would be the foundation God was going to use to shape me, into the image of his perfection. Faith and the 3 “P’s” would be the building blocks God would use to make me, more like Him and less like me – You know, that person, we all need to die from – SELF.

Please forgive me. I've become so overcome by the anointing of God that I forgot to tell you what grandma said the 3 "P's" represent. That day grandma said, "My dear Sheila, if you want to be somebody and you want to go somewhere, you can't make it without #1 – God, and #2 – Faith, Prayer, Persistence, and Positive Thinking. My dear child, 'I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor His seed begging bread.' (Psalm 37:25) My child, God has never failed me, and He will never fail you. Trust Him and take him at his word. He will bring your dreams to pass. Now baby, you know grandma ain't never told you nothing wrong. Have I?"

Who would have thought Faith, Prayer, Persistence and Positive Thinking would make me the woman I am today? It's amazing what God will do, when you move out of the way. He will bless you, and you won't have time to think about the blessing. God is setting you up for something great. I know it may not look like it now, but God is up to something great concerning you. God is about to deliver you out of your present circumstances. I am writing this book to encourage someone discouraged, or dismayed because their dreams have not yet come to pass. I am here to tell you from personal experience, if you love God with all your heart and apply the principles of Faith and the 3 "P's," God in his own will and time will unleash the "Fullness" of His anointing in your life. He will cause your most vivid dreams and desires to come to pass. Trust me, I know. I'm a living witness of the awesome power of God. I pray that as you read this book, you will find – "PEACE." The peace of God that causes you to rest in the assurance, "I may not see the promise, but I know it's on the way. God's Word is very clear my breakthrough is drawing near."

When you pray, please pray with a pure heart. Don't try to use God just to get what you want. Tisk, Tisk – it won't be pretty. God is not a "Toy" that you play with then you're ready; and then toss aside when you're tired. God is an awesome God. He will move greatly in your life if you allow him to. He's willing and ready to bless you.

Part One

The Golden Rule of Prayer and Faith

*a*s a journalist, writer, teacher, announcer, publicist and motivational speaker I apply Faith and the 3 “P’s” on a daily basis. God has blessed me with many gifts. Thanks to no goodness of my own, of course. We all have special gifts given to us from “Our Most High.” Whether we decide to use those special gifts is basically up to us.

Most people look at my life in amazement and say, “Gosh Sheila, you have accomplished so much at such an early age.” My response is, “I live by Faith and the 3 “P’s.” Most people’s reaction is typical of the reaction I gave my grandmother: “Faith and the 3 “P’s,” what’s that?” Faith, Prayer, Persistence and Positive Thinking. Those four little words have taken me far. I have yet to experience just how far! Only God truly knows.

My grandmother’s words of Faith and the 3 “P’s” have enlightened my life spiritually, professionally and most important, personally. At this phase in my life, I apply the first “P” – prayer – 24-hours a day. The first thing I do when I wake up is pray. If you don’t pray people, how can you expect results? If you don’t pray, you have already lost the battle. Also, if you don’t pray with conviction and with an honest heart, how can you expect anything from God? I have accomplished much by the “Power of Faith and the 3 P’s.” The “Golden Rule of Faith and Prayer” was handed down to me from my grandmother. I hope my grandmother’s “Golden Rule of Faith and Prayer” will also help you fulfil all of your dreams. If you ask God to plan and guide your life. He will help you accomplish your dreams.

In 1992, I realized the power of faith and prayer in my life. It was then that I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. I was attending Brookland Baptist Church in Columbia, SC at the time. My pastor was Rev. Charles Jackson. He was also a co-worker at WOIC-AM, the station where I got my first job.

At this phase of my career, I was rather frustrated and disgruntled. I had more than seven radio internships under my belt. Basically, I thought I had it going on!!! At least I thought.

I was so overly confident at this time. I thought, "Hey, I'm 22 years old, attractive, with a college degree and some insight on how the radio and records industry works, what's the problem?"

I wasn't making much money, and my career wasn't moving in the right direction. I was desperate. I prayed one night and said: "Lord, look I have slaved and worked for hours. When can I expect some kind of reward or gratification for my hard work?"

I continued praying, asking God to lead me and guide my path. I was literally praying 10 times a day. I ended up taking on two part-time jobs just to survive. My hope never ended during my moment of despair, it only made me stronger. I had to apply for unemployment at one point, but throughout that period of unemployment, my prayer life increased. I could see success, but yet it wasn't in existence. I must admit my faith was fading. I wanted to be a "Radio Star!" I could hear my grandmother's words so clearly during my moment of "Going Through." "Keep praying, and believing. God will do it for you."

No matter how hard I prayed, or believed, answers were not coming. I scheduled a meeting with Rev. Jackson. He said, "Sheila, the problem is 'YOU' are not praying right." I looked at him in total amazement. How could he be telling me, I wasn't praying right? "God may want you to be more than just a

“Radio Star.” Maybe he wants you to be a writer, a motivational speaker, a teacher, a promoter, or even a publicist. You are an excellent organizer and speaker. Instead of asking God for what You want, ask him what he wants ‘YOU’ to do.” Basically, he was saying to me, “Keep praying and believing, but “CHANGE” the way you are PRAYING!” So from that moment on, I did. Instead of asking God to make me a “Radio Star,” I asked him to lead and guide me to do His will. Immediately, He started sending people and opportunities my way.

During this time, God not only sent people my way, but He also made me stronger and blessed me with the gift of being a writer, promoter, teacher, motivational speaker. All the things Rev. Jackson talked to me about were beginning to manifest right before my eyes. I became a “Messenger” for God. When I changed the way I was praying God moved me in the right direction. Blessings started to flow left and right. The Lord blessed me with a writer’s job at a local newspaper. I was also blessed with “many” speaking engagements at several schools and churches. Throughout various ways of networking and trying to secure a good paying radio job, God blessed me with the knowledge of setting up promotional deals by way of radio, television and print. Little did I know, I was well on my way to becoming that promoter and publicist Rev. Jackson envisioned.

I even found myself reaching out to people who were veterans in the industry and asking them how they achieved success. God was moving me in the right direction in all aspects of my life.

Instead of sending out two tapes a month to radio stations around the country, my “Spirit” led me to send 15. Keep in mind, my life still wasn’t set on a golden plateau. I

continued to struggle to make ends meet, but I was happy because I was praying “RIGHT,” and “TRUSTING” God totally.

My prayers became even more pure and honest. He was listening and the results continued to come. The rejections also continued to come. One particular week, I received 9 rejection letters a day from different radio stations around the country. I was totally discouraged, however, not dismayed.

Throughout it all, I maintained my grandmother’s “Golden Rule of Prayer and Faith.” I continued praying and asking God to lead my life, and career, and He did. I realized that Sheila Stewart’s life was now God’s life. It was my decision to follow Him, and not me. Have you ever received or won a prize and felt a tremendous sense of pride afterwards? I felt that way after knowing God was in control. I believed and begin to see success in achieving my goals. He was preparing me to do and be something “Greater.” My community work locally, and nationally is a reward of the trials the Lord allowed me to endure. If I would have stop praying and believing, I would not be the person I am today.

As my career continued to rise, I could also see other aspects of my life change. I no longer desired to fulfill Sheila’s ambitions. I became a “Messenger” for God by way of community service. As the News and Public Affairs Director at WPEG-FM, my job influences, helps and changes people’s lives. God has made it my civic duty to help all people. I surpassed the goal of spotlighting more than 450 organizations over the airwaves in one year. Wow!! Can you just imagine the countless amount of people who were helped from that effort? Seeing people’s lives changed is a part of my destiny. Not for Sheila’s personal gratification but to uplift and empower another human being’s life. This should be all our goals. We should not be so self-involved, we can’t find time to help someone else. I use my job as a tool to spread the good

news of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is by His grace that I am allowed to do so much.

Thanks to God's influence and "Supreme Rule" over my life. I have helped raise more than 7.5 million dollars for non-profit and charitable organizations. Can you imagine how many people were helped and lives changed? God is so awesome. Don't you agree? He will use you greatly if you only pray and trust him.

Ophelia's Song

Dedicated to all sisters who are on the tedious journey of spiritual fulfillment.

*In the midst of my journey,
I contemplate my divine place.
My thoughts sometimes are cluttered,
As I yearn to seek Your face.
So with my hands lifted up,
I surrender to Your will,
My heart is overwhelmed,
As my eyes are filled with tears.*

*Though some may try to translate my heart,
Just to reveal the depth of my fears.
They'll never know the secrets You impart,
And so I praise You,
Yes Lord, I praise You,
With every drop of my tears.*

*Somehow the night is not as dark,
I know that dawn is on her way.
I can feel Your Holy presence,
With every breath that I take.
Please incline my ears to hear,
What Your Spirit has to say.
My heart is overwhelmed,
As my tears stream down my face.*

*Though some may try to translate my heart,
Just to reveal the depth of my fears,
They'll never know the secrets You impart,
And so I praise You,
Yes Lord, I praise You,
With every drop of my tears.*

*Lord, I adore You,
Lord, I praise Your name.
Place no one before You,
Embrace me by Your grace.*

Written by Rev. Cheryl Moore
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Part Two

The Golden Rule of Persistence

I had to maintain a persistent spirit early in my career to fully understand how to achieve the impossible. When someone tells me, “No,” I have learned throughout my life and career not to accept it. Being rejected time and time again was a good thing for me because it made me go back and re-evaluate why I was denied in the first place.

After getting so many rejection letters in the early phase of my career, I was discouraged at first, but I went back and asked God to show me where I went wrong and how to become better. My grandmother’s “Golden Rule of Persistence” again came into the picture.

I applied for the News Director’s position at WPEG-FM not once but twice. The first time was in 1991. I wasn’t ready for the job. I went back and sharpened my skills so that I would be able to fully handle the job when I was given the opportunity again. I was persistent. Remember all of those rejection letters I mentioned in Part One? Two of them came from WPEG-FM.

In life you either accept rejection and accept being told, “No,” or allow God to work it for your good.

No matter how hard you have tried to enter a peak of arrival in any field, whether it’s dance, music, art or entertainment, if you accept rejection you will never make it. I would recommend stepping back a moment and use what Rev. Jackson told me, “Change the way you are praying. Maybe God doesn’t want you to be a singer (no matter how well you can sing). He could be steering you in the direction of a songwriter.

Or if you are a dancer, and you can't land your feet on a solid stage, maybe God wants you to use your gift to be a choreographer.

I have always wanted to work in the broadcasting industry. It was difficult in the beginning, but I refused to hear the word no. Instead of giving up, I accepted the fact that working as a radio announcer wasn't God's plan for me at the time. When I truly believed that in my heart and used the other gifts he blessed me with, doors started opening. I became a writer, a publicist, a motivational speaker and even a promoter. I use the God-given abilities He blessed me with, and turn them around for "MY" good. All of them!

In 1993, I was working at WQOK-FM in Raleigh as a News and Public Affairs Director. I had only worked there for a year or so. However, my Spirit was leading me to see if I could land another job in a bigger market LIKE Chicago, Atlanta, Washington, Los Angeles, Dallas, and New York.

I went back and applied the ingredients of persistence. I submitted more than 25 samples of my tape monthly – nationwide. If you want to achieve anything in life you must give it your best shot at all times.

I begin to think of creative ways to get Supervisors to hear me. I prayed and asked God to show me how to get their attention. One night I called two of my mentors and sought advice. One was Russ Parr who is heard on more than 15 stations nationwide as a Syndicated Radio Announcer, and the other Doug Williams of KISS-FM in Columbia, SC.

I said, "Guys, I am sending out countless tapes again and no one is responding." They both said, "Well Sheila, sending out tapes is good but to really get their attention submit a critique sheet along with your tape and ask them to rate your ability on overall sound, delivery, writing ability, etc." I listened in total amazement, the same way I did to Rev. Jackson. In my

Spirit I was saying, "You are telling me to send out a critique sheet?" Here are two guys telling me the same thing. What more could I ask for?

At this point, my work experience had many years into the industry. I thought I was good and I had paid my dues, you know? I thought I was the "Bomb" as a Morning News Announcer, and Public Affairs Director . . . at least I thought? I took their advice and personally developed a critique sheet. It read as follows:

Dear Elroy Smith, Operation Manager, WGCI-FM. I have admired your work history in the industry for a long time. I know you are busy but if you could please take a moment, and critique my work and show me how to land a job in a bigger market.

Please rate my work on a scale of 0-10.

1. Sound
2. Delivery
3. Personality
4. Writing Ability
5. Overall Performance

People, not only did he respond; he offered me a JOB!!! I said . . . Wow . . . look at God! I could be living and working in Chicago! Not only did I get an offer from him, but also got other job offers, from around the country.

It did not stop there. I was also offered a National Writing job as a columnist at a Black Music Trade Magazine, a magazine that is read around the world. It's now called B.R.E., based in Los Angeles. I met the owner at a radio function and told him that I was a writer. He requested a copy of my writing samples. He wanted them within a week. By maintaining my persistent Spirit, I not only sent him samples of my writing by Fed-Ex the next day, but I also sent him one dozen roses

expressing my thanks and gratitude for being considered. I was also offered a National Radio Job as a Correspondent heard by 15 million people around the world at American Urban Radio Networks and ABC Radio News in New York.

You see, people, just because you have been granted an opportunity, don't just settle for that. Go far and above to reach your dreams. God will bring them to pass.

At this point, my life and career were on the uprise. I was considering the job in Chicago, writing for a National Magazine read by 3 million and working as an International Correspondent.

Just when I thought life was going great for me, it only got BETTER!! I thought about the many nights I prayed asking God to perform his will in my life. I never had any idea, how great God's will was for me. When I allowed him to take over, "Glory be to God." He did. I thought about the struggles, the rejections and hearing the word, "No" over and over. Through it all, I stayed persistent and the results have manifested through my hard work.

Just when I thought all was well, a difficult moment was about to come in my life. The job offer at WGCI-FM was still standing and I didn't know if I should take it or not. I prayed and asked God to show me what to do. My mind was all made up to take the job and then came a call from WPEG-FM. How about that? Talking about God's plan not be your plans. God had thrown a "Monkey Wrench" in my plans and now He expected me to make the righteous decision. Would I go for fame and fortune, or would I allow him to perform his ultimate will for my life? How could God expect me to make such a decision. How did he know in the end, I would choose His will? The answer is simple. He's God. He knows all things. God knew in the end I would choose him over "Me."

You see, folks, instead of accepting “No” from WPEG-FM and all the other stations that turned me down, I moved forward. I applied my gifts on to bigger and better things. I refused to allow the Devil to stop me from reaching my goals. God said, I could have my heart’s desire, and I was going to get it. Too bad Satan, “You lost this fight.” My friend, just because you receive a rejection don’t give up, that opportunity may present itself again.

I had a decision to make. Should I accept the offer at WGCI-FM in Chicago or should I move to a smaller market, like Charlotte? I thought hard and prayed fervently. I called Elroy Smith for WGCI-FM in Chicago, and literally “Cried” on the telephone when I told him I was accepting the job in Charlotte, a much smaller market. He said to me, “Truly my sister whatever you do, follow God’s will for your life.” My response was, “Yes, I will!” I didn’t know what to expect, but I continued to pray, believe God, remain persistent and exhibit positive thinking. I don’t care what anyone says, it’s hard to turn down a job in a big city like Chicago. I was going to be making “Big” money for a change? As usual, God’s will for my life has given me more than fame, fortune, and a “Big” name. It has brought me into the greater promise of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I am finally seeing his “Glory” in my life. Oh what “Joy,” when you walk in the perfect will of God for your life. I did not say the decisions you would have to make would be easy, but I will tell you, they’re well worth the sacrifice.

I decided to move to Charlotte and see what God had in store. God brought me to Charlotte more than six years ago and it has been so sweet!!! My persistent Spirit grew even stronger after accepting the job at WPEG-FM.

I was following God’s will not my own. I continued to network and further myself by way of career and professional growth. I went to every Radio and Records convention in the

U.S. – Los Angeles, Atlanta, Chicago, New Orleans, and New York. Just because God was moving in all areas of my life, I still strived to be better. “Faith without works is dead.” You can believe God is going to perform great things in your life, but if you don’t pursue them they will never manifest.

I met Record Company Presidents, Vice Presidents, Entertainers, and Singers, anybody who was influence to help me along the way. At one point, I had collected over 3000 business cards, and phone numbers of influential people. I realized if any door of opportunity was blocked at this point, I allowed it. I was using the God-given ability to maintain a persistent Spirit and it was working for my good. That is why I have helped many who have come my way. During my tenure at WPEG-FM/WGIV-AM, I have acquired a full news staff of reporters, many searching for a chance in the industry.

There are many great women, who have mastered the art of persistence and refusing to accept rejection. Some of these women are:

Hattie Leeper, the first Black female radio announcer in North Carolina and the owner of The Chatty School of Communications;

Diane Tucker, Vice President and General Manager of WPEG-FM/WBAV-FM/WGIV-AM, and the first Black female for Infinity Broadcasting, one of the largest owned broadcasting conglomerates in the United States; and

Mary MacMillan, the first female General Manager for Jefferson Pilot’s WBTV New Channel 3 in Charlotte.

All these women are pioneers of greatness, with persevering spirits. They never gave up the faith, but they pressed toward the prize of excellence. I have said all of this to express the importance of staying persistent. If you are in a state of giving up, on your dream – DON’T!! Ask God to show

you how to get there and give it your all. During my darkest hour of giving up on my dreams, God stepped in and prepared me for the impossible and made it possible!!

Turbulence

A Haiku

*Swimming in darkness,
An abyss of sadness, pain,
Despair – turbulence.*

Revelation

A Haiku

*Slowing turning, light,
Joy, happiness, praise, prayer,
Revelation – God.*

Written by Brandi N. Williams
WPEG-FM New Reporter

And He Still Gives Life

*He extends his grace and mercies throughout the days
He's begging and interceding to our father in many ways
Yet we seem to take for granted everything that he has done
Through his blood we are the victors, through his blood we all
have won*

*With his head hung low and his arms stretched wide
He put away his selfishness, He put away his pride
For the sins of this world and the sins of mankind
He reached for Greater Glory, so he left this all behind*

*So when Satan rears his head
When he tries to bring struggles and strife
Focus your mind back on Calvary
And remember Jesus still give life!*

Written by First Lady Sister Charlene Lee
Silver Mount Baptist Church

Part Three

The Golden Rule of Positive Thinking

The last golden rule handed down to me from my grandmother was – always think positive. A positive thought produces a positive day. We are all human. Believe me, some days I don't feel like smiling, especially when I'm having a bad day. Grandmother's word of thinking positive always rings true in my ears on those days and my thought pattern changes from negative to positive.

How can you achieve anything, whether it is career growth, finding a mate, establishing healthy friendships or just overall wanting the best out of life, if you don't think positive? You must stay positive! You can't walk around with a negative attitude. You won't get anywhere!!

Whenever I speak in public, I always begin with the phrase, "I feel so good and great today!!" Regardless of how I am truly feeling, I make myself think positive, and then I speak positive words!! Before God can do anything or move in your life, you must first believe and search deep within to find peace. Most importantly visualize positive thoughts in and around you. I speak faith into my life daily. In the tongue lies the power of life and death. I refuse to allow God to deliver out so much, then turn around and allow Satan to overtake it with negative thinking.

Another positive pattern or movement I do daily is I hug myself and say, "Sheila, I love you!" I appreciate myself and take time to recognize who I am! If I don't, who will? I know this may sound strange, but amuse me, and try it.

Due to my busy schedule, I always try to take a day just for Sheila. I get my hair and nails done, go to the library (which is something I love), go to the 'Y' and work out, or just sit home and meditate on all of the positive things happening in my life.

At one point of my life I was so engrossed with my career and helping others that I forgot about "ME." Then God told me, if I truly wanted to be my 'Upmost for his Highest,' I had to take care of No. 1 (Me). It's great to help others, but you must take time for you. You must take time out, so you won't burn out. Sounds like a smart idea to me. Don't you agree?

Staying positive spiritually, mentally, physically and emotionally are all ingredients to keeping your life on course. I am a proud, single, successful, powerful and positive African American woman!! I love me. I love who I am through and in Christ Jesus. I take no credit for anything. All the glory belongs to God. It is he that has made us, and not we ourselves. That alone should make you think positive.

To the average person, I may sound as if I am in love with myself. Well, it's true – I am! How can I love someone if I don't love myself? I refuse to let another person bring me down, to the point where I start believing that I'm worthless. I am God's child and I'm full of "Worth." You are too, but I can't convince you of that, you've got to believe it for yourself. None of us are anything without him.

Women can sometimes get caught up in unhealthy friendships and relationships, due to their lack of positive thinking. Due to our lack of self-esteem, we may find ourselves in relationships or friendships that are no good to us. I've come to tell you, "You don't have to take it anymore." God has come to free you from that yoke of bondage. He has come to set at liberty men that have been bruised. He has come to change the way you see you, and the way you view the plan he has for

your life. God has come to change your way of thinking. If there is someone in your life that constantly complains or projects negative energy, I would recommend ending that friendship or relationship immediately. That person's negative energy will eventually rub off on you.

Early in my career, I made it my business to stay connected with people who were "on the move" and had a positive outlook on life. I have also come to realize that the fewer friends I have, the better. I have very few friends here in Charlotte. I know a lot of people but God selects my really 'Close' friends. He will not allow anyone to stand in the way of the promise. He loves me so much. He protects me from danger I can't see. When you are really on the move for God, you don't need a lot of people around you. You don't need other people to "Verify" who you are. Heaven has already "Certified" you. You are above and not beneath. You are the head and not the tail. You are the "Divine" Creation of our most high "King." You are somebody. And you better know it!!!!

I have even applied Faith and the 3 "P's" at this phase of my life in finding healthy relationships. As I wait patiently for God to send me my mate, I will continue to keep the faith, stay prayerful, be persistent, and think positive.

In my last relationship, I did not apply Faith and the 3 "P's."

I allowed my personal desire to supersede God's will and it proved a learning experience. Just like my career, "Sheila's way" did not work.

Thanks to my sweet grandmother and her words of wisdom concerning Faith and the 3 "P's," I know that if I wait on God He will bring "My Knight in Shining Armor," in due season. I don't have to look for the "Golden Prize," it shall find me. As I continue to pray and operate in the will of God for my

life, in due season when God says it's time – He will send me my husband. Until then, I'm going to wait until my change comes.

No matter how hard I tried to make My past relationship work, it didn't. I continuously searched the annals of my mind for answers. And I even questioned myself. Maybe I could do this better? Maybe I should change who I am? I was so Tired, Brokenhearted, Emotionally, Physically and Spiritually drained.

Then God said, "Step back for a moment and see what this relationship is doing to you. It's destroying you." I asked God why the relationship is not working? I said, "I'm giving this relationship everything I have – my heart, my mind and my soul. What God, please tell me, show me what to do?"

One day I went to my current pastor, Rev. Claude Alexander (University Park Baptist Church) about the problem and he said: "Sheila, you want this relationship to work but God may not. He could have someone else out there for you, someone stronger, greater, and better. Instead of asking God to fix the relationship or send you a man, ask him to prepare YOU for the man he wants you to have." I looked at him in total amazement. The light had come on. Not only what my Pastor said was right, but God spoke a deeper word to me. He said, "Sheila, it is my desire that you have someone, but this is not the time or season, I have so much that I want to accomplish in you, and through you. Right now, in your life, I want "ALL" of you, to myself. I am jealous, and I don't want to share you with anyone. I can't allow you to love anyone more than you "Love" me. And you know that you loved that man more than you loved me. You gave him my time. You gave him my finances. You sang him my praises. My name is "Jealous," and I won't share you with another. I want you to be so in love with me that when I send you your husband, you won't get off track. You'll be able to stay focused on what I have ordained

for you to do. My dear, you'll know when it's from me because he won't pull you out of my will. He'll help usher you further into my presence. The vision is only for an appointed time, at the end it shall speak and not lie. Wait my child on the promise of God. For it shall come to pass." Man, what a revelation from Heaven!!

So I changed the way I was praying to God. Instead of asking him to repair my relationship, I asked him to give me strength to end it and wait until He was ready for me to have the man he had ordained for me. Right now, someone reading this book is going through what God delivered me out of. I encourage you to walk away right now. NO, it won't be easy, but you can do all things through Christ Jesus, who gives you strength. Yes, you will shed some tears, but in the end it's going to work for your good. I know it may not look like it now but from my experiences, God will wipe every tear from your eyes. In time, this trial will just be a faded memory. Take God for his word.

That was the second most difficult decision I had to make in my life because I was truly in love. I stopped searching for answers. I decided to step back and wait on God. I examined Faith and the 3 "P's" and looked at why that relationship didn't work out. First, I prayed and asked God to send me a man; however, my prayers were not honest. I requested for just a man, and that's what I got – A MAN!! I didn't ask specifically for what I needed or wanted. This is where persistence came into play. I also did not ask the will of God for my life.

Remember in previous chapters how I asked God to make, Remember in previous chapters how I told you I asked God to make me a "Radio Star?" You see He had bigger plans for me. Instead of making me a "Radio Star," He made me a teacher, a promoter, a writer, and announcer and publicist –

far greater than I had even asked. So, can you imagine what He has in store for me when it comes to my mate? God will knock our socks, if we just wait!!!!

I based my past relationship on those justifications. No matter how hard I tried to please my friend, he never appreciated it or was satisfied? Why? Because it was Sheila's plan, not God's. To the single men and women out there, I simply say, "Hang in there." Your past relationship did not work out because God has another plan. He is preparing you for something greater!!

Right now, I'm enjoying being single. It can be frustrating, but I am not discouraged. I know that God has the right "Man" out there for me. I thank "Him" for my last relationship.

I have come to realize that a person enters your life for a positive reason. If your career or relationship didn't work out keep in mind that person or situation rescued you. That situation helped you by increasing your faith, changing the way you pray, maintaining persistence and thinking positive. It's our adversities that makes us stronger. It's during these times we fully see the "Glory" of God at operation in our lives. It's when we're at our lowest, God's at his best. He has been preparing you all these years for his ultimate will for your life. God wants to use you and HE doesn't have time for you to keep going around the same mountain over and over. It's time to come up higher into the Master's will. Are you ready? Don't be afraid! God will lead the way. Keep thinking positive. You're almost there. Move forward. The promise is at hand.

Conclusion

Faith and The 3 “P’s” changed my life!!!! I am the CEO/Owner of S&S Marketing where I work as a publicist for Muhsin Muhammad and Kory Minor of the Carolina Panthers; Rhonda Mapp of the WNBA L.A. Sparks; National Comedian and “Kings of Comedy” Star Tone-X, WPEG personalities Nate Quick, No Limit Larry and “Fly-Ty” and Olympic and Professional Boxer Calvin Brock – (Thank you for being a wonderful friend).

By applying Faith and the 3 “P’s” in my life, I am also an adjunct professor of Journalism at Johnson C. Smith University and the Chatty School of Communications. More than 20 students have been awarded college scholarships (more will be awarded) by the Sheila Stewart Education Foundation of which I am the Executive Director.

Over 20 young girls in the Charlotte area are now proud college students and working class professionals because I have shared with them the 3 “P’s” and spent time mentoring them. I have also received accolades of National Awards and Local Honors. God has richly blessed me.

When I look back at my life, I wonder sometimes in amazement and say, “Wow, grandma Faith and the 3 “P’s” changed my life.” I hear her words and I am in total astonishment, at the move of God in my life. If you are reading this book and saying the same thing, I would say to you, “Don’t think twice. Allow God to have complete dominion over your life. He will take you to heights unknown. Trust God and do not doubt.”

I am happier now, than I’ve ever been. Going through tough times made me stronger, wiser and more appreciative of the things of God. I never take an open, or closed door for granted. If it’s closed and God doesn’t give me the key to open it, I accept that it’s not his will for me to walk in it. If He opens

a door for me, I do not hesitate, I seize the moment because I may not have that opportunity again.

Faith and the 3 "P's" have allowed me to share my knowledge with others, just as I'm sharing with you. It made a difference in my life. Allow God to do the same thing in your life. Keep moving forward. The prize is at hand.

About the Author

Sheila Stewart is a native of Great Falls, SC and a proud graduate of Benedict College (degree in Broadcast Journalism). Stewart is also the News and Public Affairs Director for Charlotte's number 1 radio station – WPEG-FM. Stewart also works as the Morning Traffic Anchor for WBTV News Channel 3; a Correspondent for American Urban Radio Networks (Pittsburgh, PA) and ABC Radio News Networks (New York, NY).

Stewart's community efforts in the Charlotte market have earned her a spot as one of the top Radio New Anchors in the country. The Charlotte Observer selected Stewart as one of Charlotte's "Twenty Most Influential Women." She recently received the FBI's National Community Service Award and won News and Public Affairs Director of the Year Award from the National Radio Black Programmers Association. Stewart has also been awarded community honors from the Charlotte NAACP, Charlotte Black Political Caucus, The Charlotte Housing Authority, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and a host of others. She is the thriving force behind WPEG's National Association of Broadcasters Prestigious Crystal Award for Outstanding Community Service. Due to her efforts, the station was named finalist for the past three years, and most recently named the National Association of Broadcasters finalist for Urban Station of the Year.

Stewart has also mentored more than 20 at-risk girls in the area and spotlighted over 450 non-profit and charity groups over the airwaves. Last year (2000), Stewart made over 300 personal appearances and spoke at 150 schools.

She also set up The Sheila Stewart Education Foundation, a charitable organization devoted to helping minority students attend college.

The proud of owner of S&S Marketing, Stewart represents a host of local and national celebrities including

Carolina Panther players Muhsin Muhammad and Kory Minor; L.A. Sparks center Rhonda Mapp; national comedian Tone-X and WPEG personalities Nate Quick, No Limit Larry, and “Fly-Ty.”

In addition to working as a journalist and community activist, Stewart also works as an adjunct professor at Johnson C. Smith University and the Chatty School of Communications.

Sheila Stewart attributes all her success to Jesus Christ!!!

Inspirational Thoughts

Walking in the Garden

*Thou shoulders art strong for me, my Darling
But thou love are gentle
Together we flee to our secret place*

*Oh thou my "Glo" to him, my lover, my friend
Caress me my Darling*

*Walk barefoot with me, in the cool of the evening
In our Garden of Love*

*For thou, Oh Yahweh, are the cool, green grass
Beneath my feet.*

Written By: Pastor Mable Hemphill
Restoration Place Mission
Gastonia, NC

The Master's Call

*I'm sorry I had to leave you, my loved one's oh' so dear
But you see – The Master Called Me
His voice was very clear.*

*I had made my reservations
A heaven-bound ticket for one
And I knew that he would call me
When he felt my work was done.*

*I know that your hearts are heavy
Because I have gone away
But when the Master Called me
I knew I could not stay.*

*Yes, I'm sorry to leave you, my loved one's oh' so dear
But you see, The Master Called me and I'm resting here.*

*Yes, I crossed on over to Glory and to you all I say
Just stay in the Bands of Jesus until we meet again.*

Written By: Saint Ruby Crawford
New York City

"You can do anything, if you put your mind to it."

Alexis Mitchell
Intern of Sheila Stewart
Senior East Mecklenburg High School

Your Amazing Grace

*Dear God, I thank you for your AMAZING GRACE
It wasn't the sound of the alarm but the touch of
your hand
That allowed me to get up this morning
And dress without the help of a man*

*Oh the little things we take for granted or choose
to forget
YOUR SWEET AMAZING GRACE!*

*It's always visible, always clear
Its sounds like music in my "ear"*

*You were there when I strayed
In my highs, in my lows*

*I find shelter in YOUR SWEET AMAZING
GRACE!!*

Written By: Letha Taylor
Charlotte Model/Actress

*"Everything in this world is yours
All you have to do is go and get it."*

Shay Moore
Former Intern of Sheila Stewart
Current Personality/WBLK-FM – New York

Transformation

*Today you are totally different that you were five years
ago
three, five or seven years ago*

*The question at hand is how different is your mind?
Each moment your physical input changes
Without any input on your part.*

*When we take on the mind of Christ
There will be change in how we respond
To present and past experiences.*

*Thoughts that exalt itself against the knowledge of God
Then you will be able to test and approve what
God's perfect will is.*

Written By: Minister of Visitation, Salem Baptist Church
Judy Ndiaye

*"Inner strength comes determination, positivity and a will to
overcome any obstacles."*

Psalmist Thomasina Jackson
New York City

Living Stress-Free

*The pressure of the world weigh heavy on my chest
The world around me seems so confusing
People left and right move me
People try to use me*

*Parents talking around the head
Teachers talking
Sometimes, I feel like getting up and walking*

*The only comfort is in the Lord
My strength, my love come from above.*

Written By: Lativia Smith
Intern of Sheila Stewart
Journalism Major/UNC-Charlotte

*“If you concern yourself with the business of what is “right”
and “just” only good things will follow.”*

Melissa Wade
Afternoon Personality/WNNL-FM – Raleigh, NC

Bigger Than Me

*Why should I stand tall like an old oak tree,
and believe it's all about me?
The one thing that I know is,
My needs come from someone bigger than me.*

*Not my mother or father, or even the wise man
Walking on a one-way street
My needs come from someone bigger than
me.*

*Whether I'm the best talker, dresser or looker with a beat
It's not all about me, is that all you see?*

*God is the one that helps me get through
Did I mention, he is bigger than me and you.*

Written By: Lashawn Brown
Intern of Sheila Stewart
Independence High School

"God makes the impossible – Possible."

Shelly Barrow
Wife of Michael Barrow (New York Giants)

I Dare To Dream

*For many say
I am a dreamer and that I should not wake up,
And face the reality
Of life's bitter cup.*

*Some have even told me,
that visions don't come true
And this is just a phase
that I am going through.*

*Oh Yes, I dare to dream
and see visions unknown
For if I keep the faith
my deliverance will surely come.*

Written By: Acquinetta Davis
Owner/Founder Heaven's Publications

"For my faith is in the Savior, it doesn't lie in you."

Pastor Carolyn Spellman
Blood of the Lamb Church of Deliverance

Emotional

*I look for equality in a world of indifference
And found nothing to which I could relate
A desperate attempt to change
Who I was and yet another
Emotion and feeling hate.*

*What more time to reflect on the past
And wonder if it was worth the pain
A chance to believe in myself – once again
And longing for the fate I wish to contain.*

Written By: Serlethea Smith
Student at Central Cabarrus High School

*“One finds equality when they realize who they are in Christ
Jesus”*

Dwaylle Thomas
Friendship Baptist Church

Success

*Success lies in the "palm" of your hand
Each stroke, each grasp brings you closer
to your destiny.*

*When you aim for the Sky
And reach for the Stars
There is nothing you can't achieve.*

Written By: Altheresa Goode Howard
Morning Personality WGIV-AM

"Success lies in you."

Christa Muhammad
Wife of Carolina Panthers Player Muhsin Muhammad

Overcoming Fear

*Fear is actually false evidence appearing real
When you overcome this mind set
You will succeed.*

Kristi Bowden
Niece of Sheila Stewart
Graduate of Kings College

“You must overcome fear before it overtakes you.”

Attorney Tamela Wallace
Charlotte, NC

Faith and Prayer

*Faith is believing and not seeing
When you pray and not doubt
And step out on faith
Amazing things can happen.*

Katina Stewart
Niece of Sheila Stewart
Benedict College Student

“Staying faithful and prayerful produce results.”

Helen Worthy
Eldest Sister of Sheila Stewart

It is Well

*I finally realize, who I am
And who God said I would be
Though life has not turned out
The way, I supposed – things have worked out for me
“It is well with my soul.”*

Sheila Stewart

*“Love yourself, determine your goals and set your face as a
flint. And allow no one to deter you from the prize.*

Brenda Dewese, Jackie Davis & Gale Stewart
Sheila's Sisters

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This book is dedicated to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Without You, “My Sweet Savior,” I am nothing!

There are so many people who have influenced and impacted my life throughout the years. Among them are friends, confidants, consultants, and most importantly, brothers and sisters in Christ.

I also dedicate this book to my parents: Henry and Dorothy Stewart. I love you both “Dearly.” Thanks for being my number one fans!

Thanks to my oldest sister Helen (who really acts like my mother), Bren, Gale, Jackie, thanks for listening. To my brothers Henry Jr., Steven and Gerald. To all my nieces and nephews, “You are my inspiration.” To my dear cousin Vanessa Simpson (you give me strength). I love you. To my aunts Mae Boulware, Ann Hicklin and Faye Lamar (thank you).

To my broadcasting friends . . . Wow! I can’t thank you enough for your love, support, and guidance over the years. Diane Tucker, General Manager and Vice President for WPEG-FM/WBAV-FM/WGIV-AM, thanks for teaching me the ropes of working in radio from a corporate level. I Love You Dearly!!! To my co-workers at WPEG-FM/WGIV-AM. To my Program Director, Andre Carson, thanks for your undying support. To my news staff at WPEG-FM/WGIV-AM – Tonya, Alexis, George, Lativia, Allison, Lashawn and Brandi – thank you.

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Church, Rev. Charles E. Jacobs of Yadkin Grove Baptist Church, Rev. Charles B. Jackson of Brookland Baptist Church, and Rev. James Jamison (my spiritual advisor – you saved my life!!!)

To all “men and women” of the cloth – keep spreading the Good News of Our Lord and Savior!!!

Thanks to my dear friend and attorney, Tamela Wallace. Thanks to Attorney Harold Cogdell, Attorney Calvin Murphy, Attorney Ken Harris, Dr. Sylvia Bartee; Dr. David and Jill Henderson, Kevin and Toni Bond (thank you), Marilyn Bowler and Mr. and Mrs. Gil McGregor of the Charlotte Hornets, Felicia Hall of the WNBA Charlotte Sting, Rhonda Mapp (L.A. Sparks), Sporty Jeralds of the Charlotte Coliseum, Christa and Muhsin Muhammad (Carolina Panthers). You both are real friends. Michael and Shelly Barrow (New York Giants). Thanks to Kory Minor and Dameyune Craig of the Carolina Panthers, Kendall Phills (you are so strong), Brother John Barnett of the T.H.U.G. Ministries; Terry Peterson of Coca-Cola, Diane Colefield of Frito Lay. To Calvin Brock Olympian & Professional Boxer (Thank you for having faith in me). Thanks to my realtor Bob Acree. Thanks to Charlotte Mayor Pat McCrory and Charlotte Police Chief Darrel Stephens.

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To Rev. Claude & Kim Alexander of University Park Baptist Church. I thank you both. Words cannot express how much I appreciate your prayers & kindness extended to me over the years. When others “judged” me – you both showered my spirit with “Love,” and I was able to stand!!!! I will be forever grateful to you. I am honored to be a faithful member at “The Park.” Thank you Sister Kim for your special friendship, and honesty. And thank you Pastor Alexander for your spiritual guidance and grooming.

Most importantly thanks to my grandmother, Beatrice Gaither, (who is 82 years strong). And also to my deceased grandmother, who taught me about Faith and the 3 “P’s” at age 7, Mattie Stewart, I love you. May you rest in peace!!

Faith and the 3 "P's"

Overcoming Obstacles with *Prayer, Persistence, & Positive Thinking*

(back cover)

Step back. Take a brief inventory of your life. Ask yourself, "Have I truly walked in the fullness of my destiny as God has ordained for my life?" Or, have you allowed your lack of faith, persistence, prayer, and positive thinking to hinder the ultimate will of God for your life. If you can answer yes to these questions, then, this is the book for you. Learn through my personal experience how Faith and the 3 "P's" can take you to heights unknown to man and through Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Love, Sheila



Sheila Stewart
(1969-2013)

SHEILA STEWART OBITUARY

Sheila Leigh Stewart ELLENWOOD, Ga. – Sheila Leigh Stewart, 44, 5078 Tara Creek, Ellenwood, Ga., formerly of Great Fall, S.C., a pioneer in the field of journalism, is fondly remembered for her joyous spirit. Sheila departed her life on Thursday October 24, 2013, in Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia. She was born in Fairfield County (Blackstock, S.C.) on February 28, 1969. She was the beloved daughter of Mrs. Dorothy Stewart and the late Mr. Henry Stewart, Sr. A life of dedication to people, Sheila Stewart, as she was so affectionately known, was a lady filled with the desire to succeed at everything she set out to do. Not only was she a thriving leader, community activist, mentor, motivator, friend, mother, daughter, sister and much more, she was a Godly woman. She touched the lives of many and leaves a legacy to be remembered for many generations to come. A matriarch in South Carolina, North Carolina, Maryland, Washington DC and surrounding communities, Sheila will be missed, but not forgotten. Sheila is an award winning media conglomerate whose career as a Radio, TV and Print Media Personality spans over 25 years. A native of Great Falls, SC, Sheila received a BA Degree in Broadcast Journalism from Benedict College, Columbia South Carolina. She had worked as a Reporter / Anchor for CBS Affiliate WBTV News 3; Guest appearances on TV Networks NBC, ABC, Fox News; News Director for CBS Radio WPEG-FM Charlotte, North Carolina, Correspondent for American Urban Radio Networks; ABC Radio News and National News Anchor for Syndication One Radio News Networks.

Sheila was the Director of News & Community Affairs, Radio One-Washington DC. Sheila taught as an adjunct Professor at Johnson C Smith University and as an Instructor at The Chatty School of Communications. Many of her students are currently working in broadcast media all over the country. Sheila was one of the most sought after motivational speakers at schools, college/universities, churches and social groups in the DC, MD and VA areas. Sheila was a member of First Baptist Church of Glenarden, Maryland (Pastor John and Trina Jenkins). She served in many Church and Social organizations. Sheila's accomplishments, awards, recognitions and affiliations are numerous. Professional Affiliations included: National Association of Black Journalists, National Association Black Radio Programmers, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Sheila leaves to cherish her precious memories, her adorable son, Jonathan Henry Russell of Atlanta, Georgia and her Mother Dorothy Stewart of Blackstock, SC. Four Sisters, Mrs. Jacqueline (Al) Davis of Atlanta, Georgia, Mrs. Brenda (Randy) Dewese of Blackstock, SC, Mrs. Helen (Ander) Worthy of Chester, SC, Miss Gale Stewart of Lancaster, SC. Three Brothers, Mr. Henry Stewart Jr., Mr. Steven Stewart, and Gerald Stewart all of Blackstock, SC. Nine nieces and nephews, Kristi, Antonio, Katina, Kayla, Whitney, Brandon, Stephanie, Romelo and Kendrick. A host of other relatives and friends who loved her dearly. Two devoted godsisters, Mrs. Vanessa Simpson of Rock Hill, SC, and Miss Tiwana Young of Blackstock, SC. Sheila was preceded in death by her Father, the late Mr. Henry Stewart Sr.