

BAMBOOZLED


by Jesus

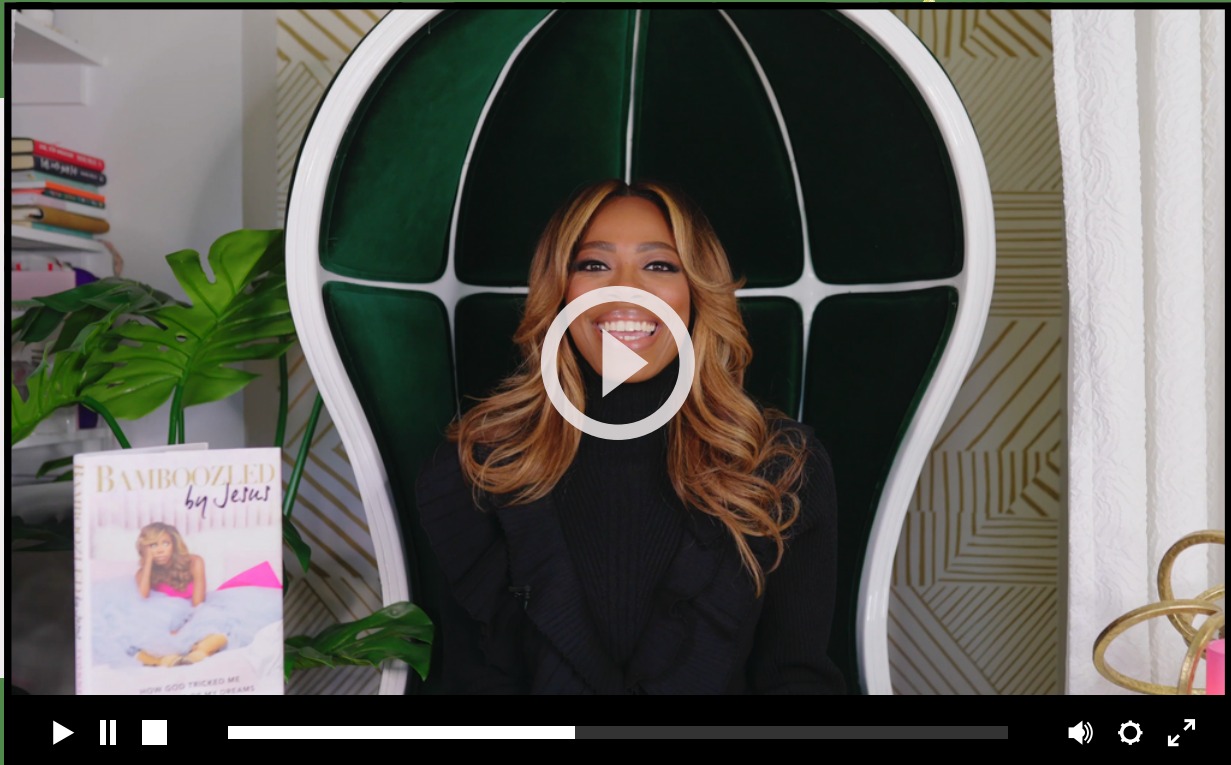
BOOK CLUB KIT



YVONNE ORJI

Welcome to the Book Club!

In the kit, anytime you see the  button, click on it for a personal chapter breakdown by Yvonne!



In the Beginning...



Rule #1: Don't check the fine print.

Rule #2: Do allow God to add his super to your natural

Rule #3: Do let God build an accessible ramp.

Rule #4: Do show up so that God can show off.

Rule #5: Don't neglect the small stuff.

Part I: The Burden



TRUST ME, IF GETTING
BAMBOOZLED BY JESUS
ONLY STOPPED AT THE
SUCKY PARTS, THEN I'D BE
THE FIRST ONE TELLING
YOU TO EXIT STAGE LEFT.
BUT IT DOESN'T. HENCE THE
SUBTITLE, HOW GOD
TRICKED ME INTO
THE LIFE OF MY DREAMS.

YVONNE ORJI

Part I: The Burden

Chapter 1: I Am What I Am

“When I was young, I became so many things to so many people, all for the sake of fitting in.”

- How has people-pleasing affected how you see yourself?

“That was another one of God’s interceptions, His not-so-subtle nudge guiding me towards His plans for my life.”

- How have outside expectations affected God’s path for you? Has He done anything, whether subtle or drastic, to let you know that this isn’t the plan for you?

“Da Good Book says that we, too, are meant to be ‘instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.’”

- How do you see God setting you up for peak performance as His instrument?

Part I: The Burden

Chapter 2: Play Yo' Position

“God was drawing a line in the sand and it was up to me to decide what kind of relationship we were gon’have... Was I gonna play my position as a child of God and trust that He knew more than me, or was I gonna succumb to fear, play it safe, and back out?”

- Have you had a similar turning point experience? How did your situation change when you decided to trust that God was in control?

“Don’t you miss out on your blessing because you’re stuck between reason and logic. Everything in you might be shouting, What if it doesn’t work?, but try switching perspectives for a hot second and focus instead on, What if it does work?”

- Is it easy for you to switch from reason and logic to trust? Why or why not? What is logic telling you to keep you stuck where you are?

“God’s not picking you to get bamboozled because you’re so bomb. He wants to use you, so you’ll be molded into an even better version of yourself.”

- THINK ON THIS: It ain’t ABOUT me, but it is FOR me.

Part I: The Burden

Chapter 3: Get'chya Mind Right

“You’re definitely gonna face harsh critics and tough situations. Circumstances will feel out of your control. Problems will appear more powerful than your alibies. That’s a fact, but the Truth of God’s Word trumps a fact on any day of every week.”

- What are some actual hindrances you’re facing in achieving your goals?
- For each fact, name a truth from God’s Word that you can speak over your current situation? (Ex: FACT: I don’t have enough resources. TRUTH: ALL things work together for my good... Romans 8:28)

“The reality is, we’ve all been designed for greatness, because God Himself is great. And if God lives in us, then our default factory setting is to also be great.”

- How does knowing you were designed for greatness affect the way you view yourself?

“I know it gets hard to believe that what you have to offer will be widely accepted, especially when there are so many others in the game who are just as good, or even better. But don’t allow yourself to be defeated before you even get started.”

- THINK ON THIS: The unwatered down version of me is about to be a hot commodity!

Part I: The Burden

Chapter 4: I Said It, I Meant It, I'm Here to Represent It!

“You’ll face giants that look new, but don’t believe the hype. You’ve seen them before. They might be packaged differently, but that’s ‘cuz the devil ain’t got new tricks... When the attacks come, think back on all your past wins and apply them to your current troubles. Soon enough, your tests will become your testimony.”

- Think of a time when you’ve used a past victory to get you through a difficult season or situation.

“Everything God put in you has equipped you for the battle and everything God is to you has prepared you to succeed.”

- What’s your "special sauce" – those character traits and unique quirks that make you especially equipped to succeed in your purpose

“What separated David from all the other soldiers who were too shook to battle Goliath was his unshakable belief that if God be for him, no giant could stop him.”

- Write one thing you’re willing to say, mean and represent!
 - Ex: I will have _____ clients in six months.

Part I: The Burden

Chapter 5: Faith It 'Til You Make It

“No matter how long it takes to get what God’s promised, don’t confuse a delay with a denial.”

- Name a dream or desire that you feel is currently being delayed.

“Some of your biggest blessings won’t appear like the bright, glaring Krispy Kreme “Hot Now” sign. They’ll come wrapped as a beautiful burden. They’ll look like a hurdle, feel like a chore, and will probably come at the most inopportune time.”

- Think back to a time when a hardship, burden, or setback ended up being a blessing. What did you learn about yourself through that experience? What did you learn about God?

“Faith’n it requires you to operate from a place where your problems are already solved, even though they’re staring you dead in the face.”

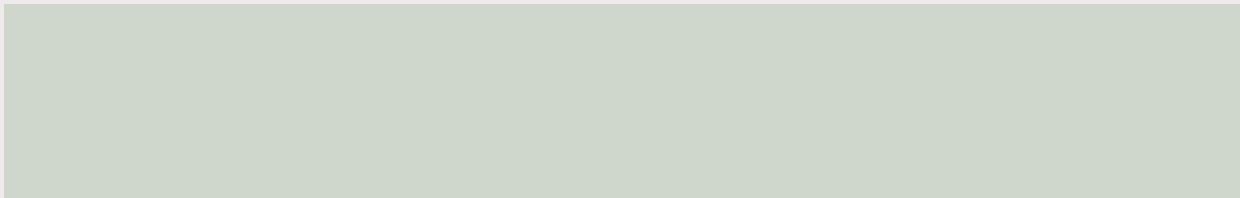
- THINK ON THIS: Believing don’t cost nothin’. It’s free, so what’s stopping me from believing?

Part I: The Burden

Chapter 6: Pressure Bursts Pipes, But Also Creates Diamonds

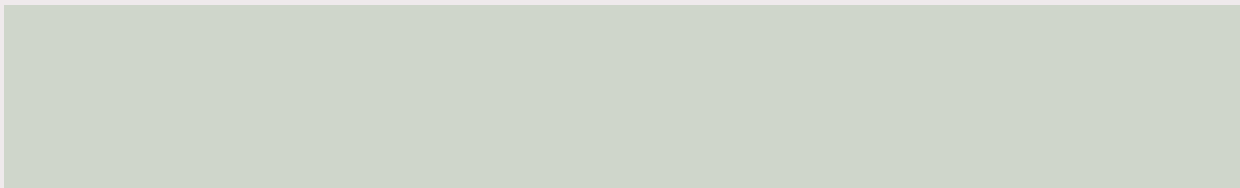
“We’re meant to be refined by our fires, not overtaken by them. The flames aren’t a punishment; they’re a rite of passage. Some challenges are nothing more than litmus tests to see if we’ll emerge more damaged or more brilliant than before.”

- Do you ever feel like the struggles you’re facing are a punishment? What are some ways you can shift your perspective and instead see your struggles as an opportunity for growth?



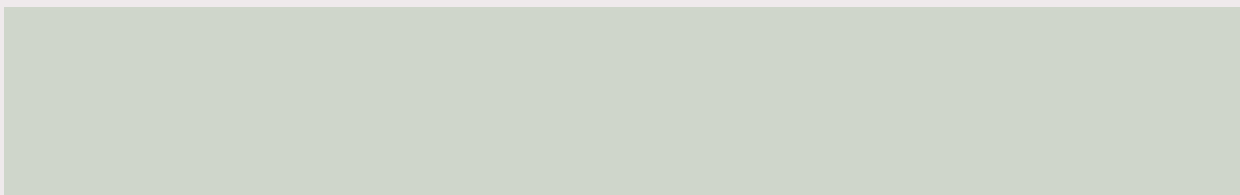
“When situations get too hot to handle, that’s when you need to sit in the displeasure, push past the pain, and allow it to produce a stronger, better version of yourself.”

- Think back to a time when sitting in the displeasure and pain actually resulted in a positive outcome.



“Situations will try to burn you emotionally, financially, or professionally, but when it’s all said and done, the fire won’t consume you, the flames won’t singe your clothes; heck, you won’t even so much as smell like smoke. That’s God’s way of saying, ‘When I’m done with you, there won’t be any evidence of what you’ve been through, only evidence of My grace that brought you through.’”

- THINK ON THIS: God’s covering is the best blanket.



Part II: The Building



Part II: The Building

Chapter 7: Miracles Don't Make Reservations

“God needed me to see beyond the physical emptiness of my actual hands and look instead at the possibilities that existed when I placed my situation at the altar.”

- What’s a situation you need to lay on the altar right now?
- What’s in your hand right now that you can use for your benefit?

“I tried once more to find hope in a morsel of ‘maybe’ still left in me.”

- What ‘maybe’ statements can you move from today?
 - Ex: MAYBE if I apply one more time, I’ll get an interview

“Somewhere deep in the crevasses of my soul, hanging on by a thread, was the belief that God couldn’t be a complete liar.”

- THINK ON THIS: Either my situation is lying to me, or God is. Which one will I believe?

Part II: The Building

Chapter 8: If You Stay Ready, You Ain't Gotta Get Ready

"God provided bite-sized blessings to get me to my next step, where more bites awaited. That's the protocol for getting bamboozled: You trust, you do, you wait, you repeat, until the moment that changes your life happens."

- Name an example of God's daily blessings in your own life.

"Do something radical that gets God's attention. You know what doesn't get His attention? All your excuses. They get His frustration—I know, 'cuz they frustrate the heck outta me too."

- Be honest (it's a safe space), what are some excuses you've been making to convince yourself you can't do something or something won't work?

"I've been told that in the game of football, the quarterback doesn't always throw to a receiver but to a specific spot on the field. It's up to the receiver to dodge defenders and get in position, at just the right time, to make the catch. The problem is, God's been throwing to the spot, we just haven't been in position."

- Is there a spot you KNOW you're supposed to be in, but you haven't pulled the trigger?"
 - Ex: moving states, enrolling in classes, at the bank applying for the loan, etc.

Part II: The Building

Chapter 9: Let God, God

“Anything we can think, dream, ask for, or imagine, God is God enough to do exceedingly, abundantly above that.”

- How easy or difficult is it for you to believe this? What are the circumstances in your life that result in your ability or inability to accept that God can do abundantly more than we could ever ask for?

“God’s lifelines don’t often look like anything we want to grab hold of.”

- Can you recall a time when God asked something of you that you were not willing to give? How did doing, or not doing so, work out for you?

“God’s in your tomorrow today, so if He asks you to do something unprecedented and kinda sorta ridiculous, just rock with it.”

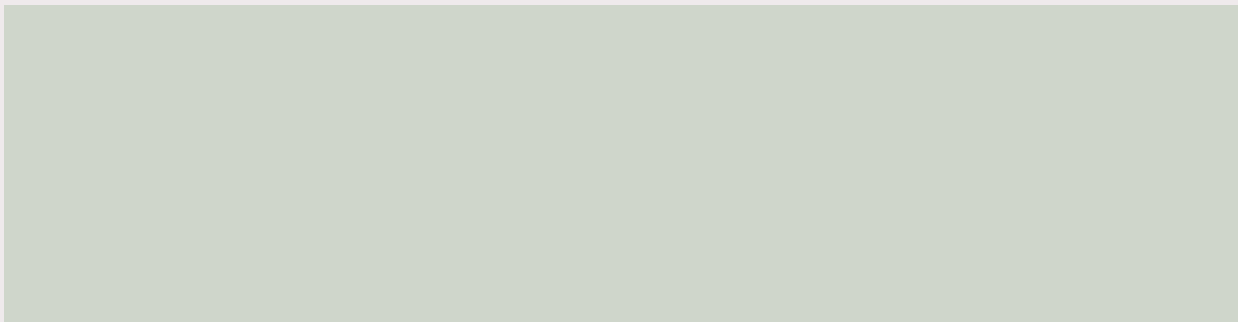
- How does knowing God’s got your tomorrow bring you peace and contentment today?

Part II: The Building

Chapter 10: I Swear to God

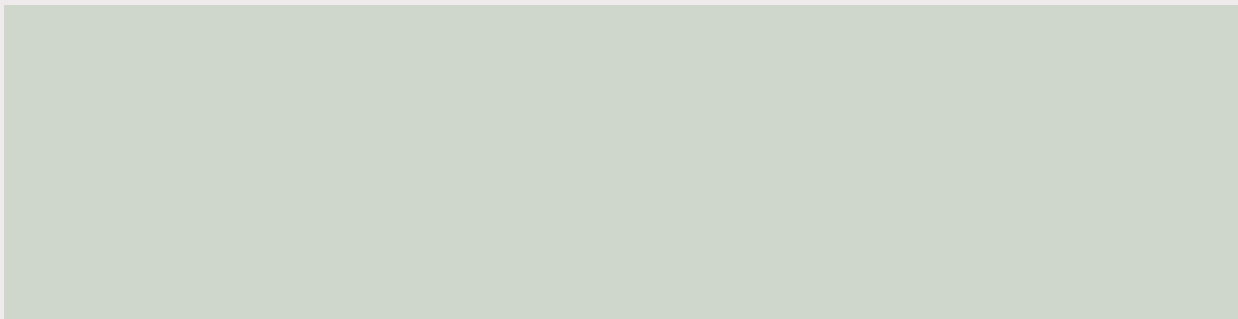
“God’s put a down payment on our futures... What’s His has become ours, and what’s ours is a life littered with surprises of things we didn’t know to ask for or even want, until they appeared.”

- Think of a time when you’ve received a blessing you didn’t even KNOW TO ask for. What was that like?



“Gideon was living a rather mediocre existence, until, one day, an angel appeared, calling him a mighty warrior. Clearly, Gideon thought there was a mix-up. As far as he was concerned, his clan was at the bottom of the totem pole and he himself was the weakest link.”

- List all the ways you feel you’re not qualified for your calling (it’s OK, it’s still a safe space).



“When God swears to God to bless you, He’ll tilt Heaven toward Earth, transcend time zones, and pierce the hearts of men to get you to the finish line.”

- For every shortcoming you listed above, repeat this statement: God has sworn to God to bless me, so that settles it.

Part II: The Building

Chapter 11: Fear Is Food Poisoning, But Regret Is Herpes

“What scared me the most was the fact that she was actually giving me the freedom to fail. As a Nigerian, I was rarely afforded such a luxury.”

- Would you say you have a healthy relationship with failure?
 - For example: if you don't get something right the first time, would you consider yourself a failure?

“You, too, can liberate yourselves by realizing that none of us are perfect. If we were, Jesus would be out of a job. Give yourself some grace. You might actually get it right by getting it wrong.”

- What does giving yourself grace look like? Is this something you're able to do easily? How much pressure do you put on yourself to succeed? Why?

“What has gotten me the furthest in life and in my career has been this fundamental principle: “I hate regret more than fear. Dasssit. Full stop. Period. The end.”

- What is your biggest fear right now? If you let that fear stop your dreams and 5 years from now, you realize you would've made it, what things would you regret?

Part III: The Breakthrough

**I BELIEVE GOD
HAS GONE
BEFORE ME
MAKING EVERY
CROOKED
PATH
STRAIGHT.**



Part III: The Breakthrough

Chapter 12: I May Not Win, But I Always Win



“I’m aware that losing is part of the game. It doesn’t make me like it any better, but I’ve learned not to see my L’s as defeats. They’re just possibilities in waiting.”

- What losses have you faced that have become beautiful or unexpected opportunities?

“Once again, I sat back and watched as others advanced to the next level, while I hung on to the hope of a ‘one day.’ One day, at the right time, it will all pay off, as long as we don’t give up.”

- As you anticipate your “one day,” what can you do to keep putting your best foot forward? How do you keep a positive attitude when you see others thriving while you wait?

“What constitutes a win for you will look vastly different than what counts as a win for me.”

- What tools or reminders help you not to compare your life to others’ when you’re feeling defeated?

Part III: The Breakthrough

Chapter 13: The Way Up Is Down

“We all got a little Orville Redenbacher in us that wants to get hot fast and pop quick, but the reality is, most times... in order to get to the top, you might have to start at the bottom.”

- What shortcuts to success have you attempted to take? And how did that workout in the long run? What lessons did you learn from that experience?

“Even though some of your best breaks will come from what you give, *how* you give is equally important. Da Good Book warns against doing the bare minimum just to get by. Instead, it challenges us to do our very best, as if we’re working for God, confident that when we do, we’ll be paid in full.”

- SELF CHECK: How easy is it for you to give your all to grunt work vs glamorous work?

“Make no mistake, this approach to success will definitely require you to do the unsexy work—the stuff that doesn’t have a spotlight on it, the stuff everybody secretly wishes someone else would do. But you do it.”

- In what ways can you take the initiative to make the load lighter for someone without expecting anything in return?

Part III: The Breakthrough

Chapter 14: Your Working of It Doesn't Make You More Worthy of It



“Favour is a free gift from Heaven that can override the natural order of things...You can't work for it or pay for it. All you gotta do is receive it.”

- How easy is it for you to freely receive God's favor without feeling unworthy or like you owe him something in return? Can you pinpoint an event in your life that you know, without a shadow of a doubt, that God's favour was at work?

“Assumptions are the lowest form of knowledge. You set yourself up to be disappointed each time you rely on what you assumed to be true. So try not to make facts out of 'em.”

- What are some assumptions you've made about your path or others that have turned out to not be true?

“Sometimes you have to remind yourself that you're somebody too, regardless of how much money, clout, or popularity you don't have.”

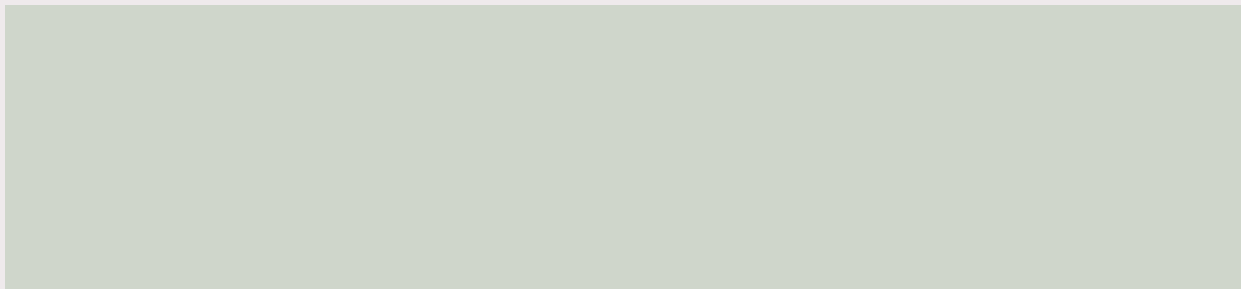
- In the big moments of your life, how can you show up as your authentic self and remind YOU that you've got worth too? (Ex: the first time I met with Oprah, I played Meek Mill's, “Ima Boss” on repeat to pump myself up).

Part III: The Breakthrough

Chapter 15: Put Me In, Coach

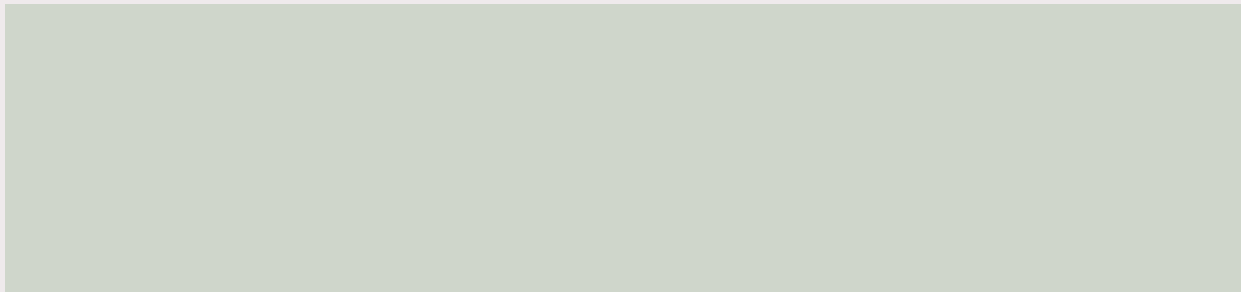
“We often meet a stiff arm from God with tears and frantic ‘whys,’ but how come we don’t question His blessings in the same way?”

- Be honest, how often do you treat God like a genie, where you expect him to do what you want, how you want, when you want?



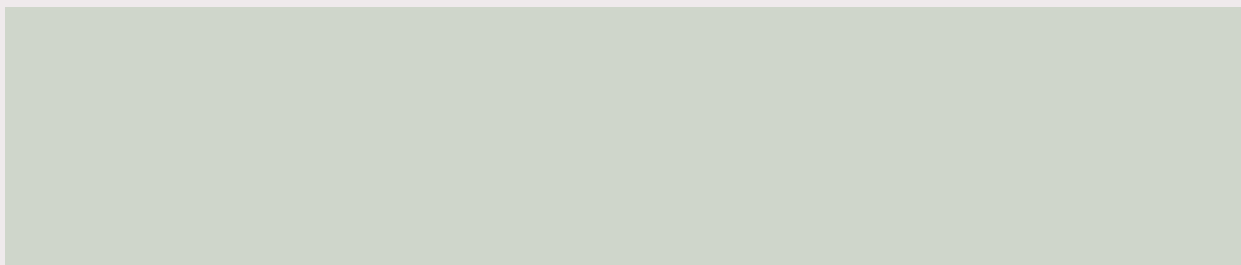
“The ‘not yet’ season can be incredibly frustrating, because it’s not like you’re not good enough. It’s not that you’re not standing in faith. It’s just that all the puzzle pieces haven’t quite lined up yet.”

- What are some ways you can navigate your “not yet” season with trust vs. losing hope or your faith?



“God doesn’t need your help. He needs your participation.”

- THINK ON THIS: It’s, “peace be STILL,” not “peace be HUSTLIN.”

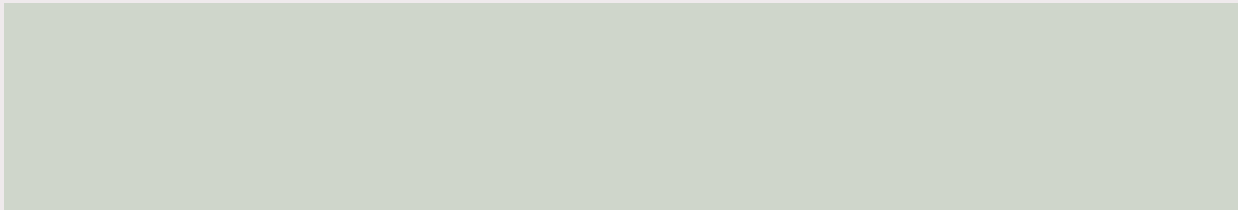


Part III: The Breakthrough

Chapter 16: Focus on Your Focus

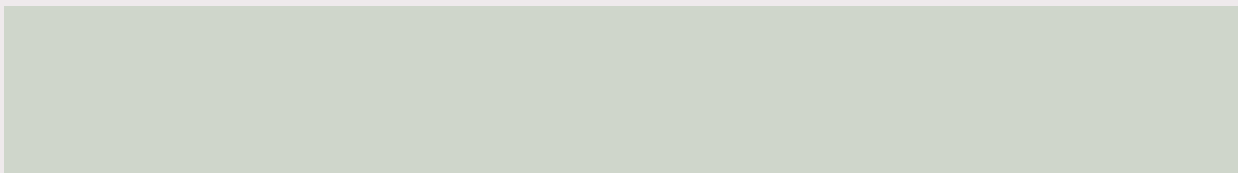
"What you focus on will expand, and it will either enlarge your territory or deflate your drive."

- Let's do a meditation exercise. Close your eyes and envision that BIG, BOLD, AUDACIOUS dream. Now imagine all the negative reasons why you could never attain this desire. When you're done, open your eyes and write down how you feel? Did anything happen in your body, your emotions? Now, close your eyes, and envision that dream again. This time, imagine yourself successful and all the positive forces that helped you reach your goal. Sit in this for a moment. Open your eyes and write down how you feel. Was there a noticeable difference in your body, your emotions, or your drive to accomplish this goal? How so?



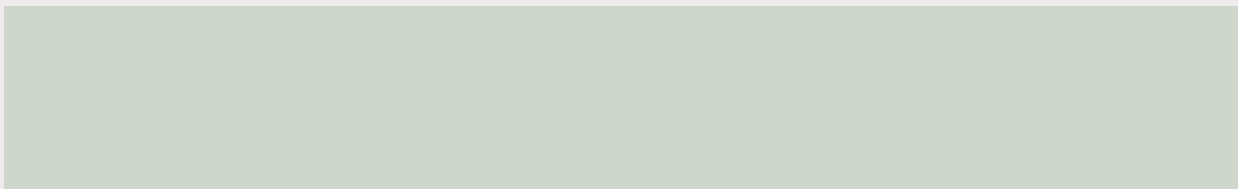
"No one can do you better than you, boo. But that also means you can't do anyone else better than them either. The minute you try to focus on someone else's focus, you've lost your magic."

- How often do you find yourself wishing you had someone else's talent, looks, bank account, connections, gifts, etc? What of theirs do you wish you had? Now think about ALL of your gifts. What special qualities of YOURS would others wish they had? Did it surprise you to discover how dope YOU already are?



"When we envy what others have, we're essentially requesting a do-over with God, because apparently He didn't get it right the first time."

- THINK ON THIS: "Your talent is not irrelevant just because someone else's gift gets more shine."



Part IV: The Booked, Blessed, & Busy

06:00

Monday, 17 May 2021

BAMBOOZLED BELIEF

Today's Morning Mantra: "I believe I will find joy in my success"

Part IV: The Booked, Blessed, & Busy

Chapter 17: Don't Let Your Talent Write a Check Your Character Can't Cash



“Talent gets you on the court, but character keeps you in the game.”

- Are there any character traits you could work on now to sustain you in success? (Ex: punctuality, truthfulness, listening, collaborating, etc.)

“Personally, I think the method of attaining success is more important than the success itself.”

- Do you agree? Why or why not? Define integrity for yourself.

“Walking this walk isn't about living in the technicalities. All them technicals are fit'na get'chu got. It may seem like nothing, but left unchecked, those small, seemingly insignificant thoughts and feelings could grow in a way that'll have me losing sight of my reason for being on the show in the first place.”

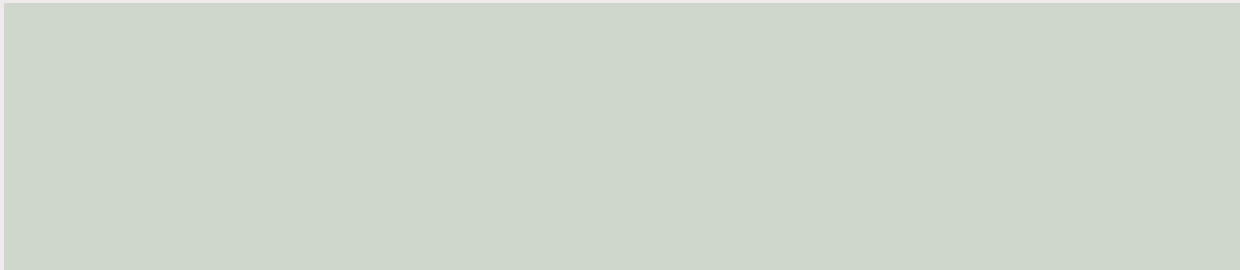
- What are some checks and balances you can instill to hold yourself accountable in tricky moments?

Part IV: The Booked, Blessed, & Busy

Chapter 18: Bentleys Don't Go on Sale

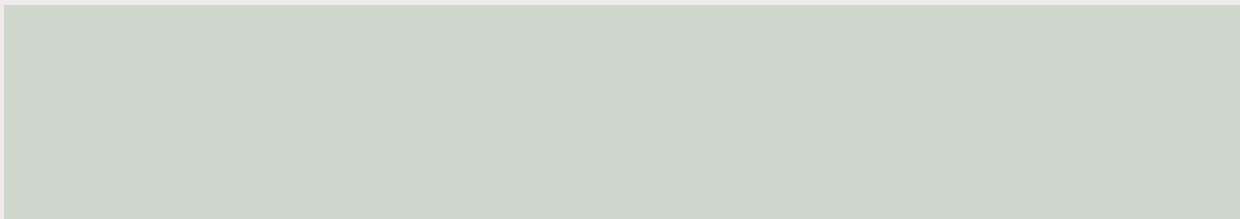
"I deserve God's best. I'll marry His Best, live in His best, and work with His best.."

- What are some of God's bests for YOU that others have tried to get you to compromise on?" (Ex: neighborhood to live in, school to attend.)



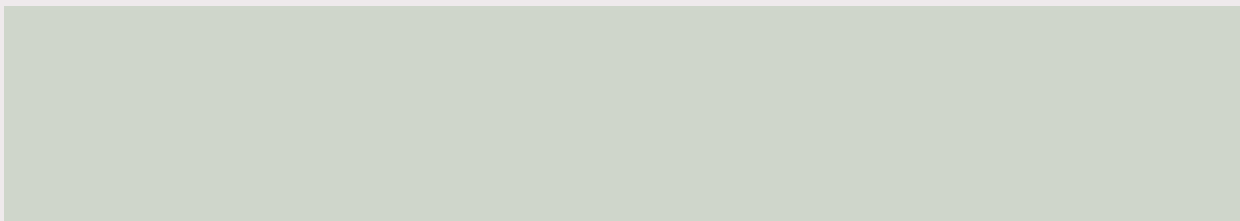
"Truth is, you've outgrown who you used to be, and that's something to be proud of, not ashamed about. Both versions of you needed to exist in different seasons to get you to exactly where you are now."

- What can you appreciate about who you were and who you're becoming? What was necessary about both versions of you?



"There are some people who will count the cost of your standards, your portfolio, or your expertise, and will be unwilling or unable to pay the price for it. It doesn't change your worth."

- THINK ON THIS: My worth is not up for debate. People know how valuable I am, they're just hoping that I don't.



Part IV: The Booked, Blessed, & Busy

Chapter 19: Give God a Big Bag to Fill

“We downplay our birthright and forfeit our inheritance when we act like we’re Airbnb renters instead of joint heirs to the Kingdom.”

- In what areas have you given God a change purse, instead of a big bag to fill? Why do those bags make you nervous for God to fill?

“We all need people in our lives who will stir up our faith when we’re teetering on the verge of giving up.”

- Who can you rely on to encourage your faith when you feel like giving up?

“It’s like God wouldn’t let even me go against what I was believing for. He had my enormously big bag and intended on filling every aspect of it to the brim.”

- Describe a time God did exceedingly abundantly above all that you could have asked for.

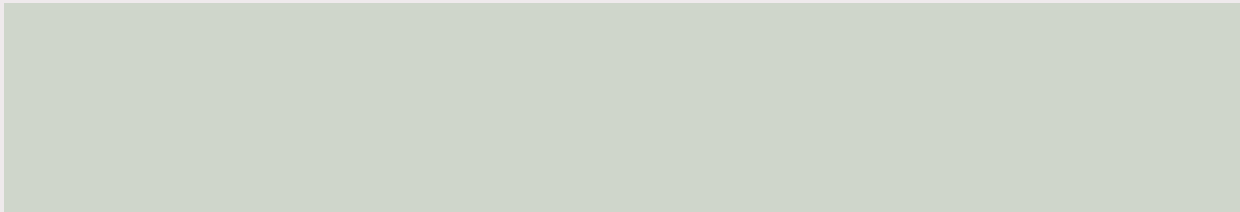
Part IV: The Booked, Blessed, & Busy

Chapter 20: Don't Put a Period

Where God Put a Comma

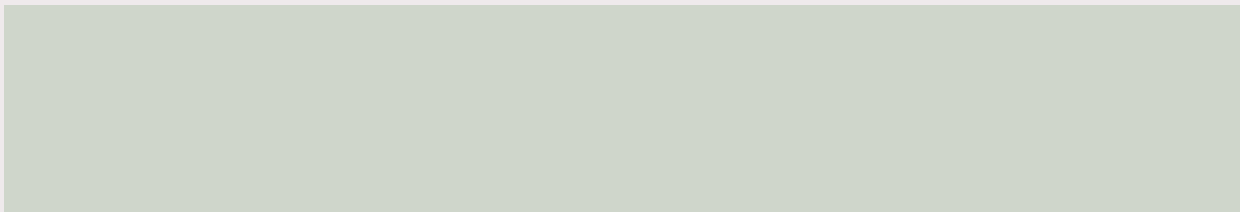
"There's no formula for how things are supposed to go...and while God may let you fall, He'll never let you fail."

- When facing an unpredictable obstacle, how can you trust in God and face it with positivity instead of dread and worry?



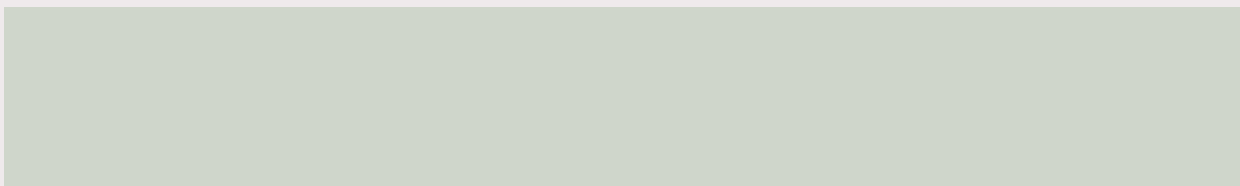
"I made a commitment to releasing a new video each month. I didn't have a big platform back then, so after pouring endless hours into editing, I'd get only a few hundred views. I thought to myself, 'What's the point?' Then God asked, 'Are you doing this for the likes, or because I asked you to?'"

- When have you questioned God's reasons only to realize that He was moving behind the scenes for your future good?



"In Da Good Book it says that the foolishness of God is wiser than all human wisdom. That means that on your best day, you can't even begin to scratch the surface of what God's got up His sleeves."

- When you feel anxious for the future, create a mantra to remind yourself that God is in control.



Part V: The Bonus



PRAISE FOR
BAMBOOZLED
by Jesus

"Inspiration practically leaps off the pages and into the hearts of readers. The writing is engaging and the concepts bring a divine glow. Can't wait to read this one!"

-BOOKLIST

"Yvonne brilliantly weaves her humor, insight, courage and faith into pages that feel like a warm blanket being held over your head. Bright and soul-blessing, Bamboozled by Jesus is not just a book about how faith can give you the power to overcome in living a life of grace, purpose, peace and love."

-TERRY WASHINGTON, author, producer and actress

Yvonne is Yvonne, really funny and smart, she brings a beautiful perspective to the world. She is an absolute treasure and a true inspiration. Bamboozled by Jesus is a must-read for anyone who wants to live a life of grace, purpose, peace and love."

-CHRIS ROCK, actor and comedian

"A delightful debut... Orji's humor and wisdom will warm the hearts of everyone who reads it."

-THE WEEKLY



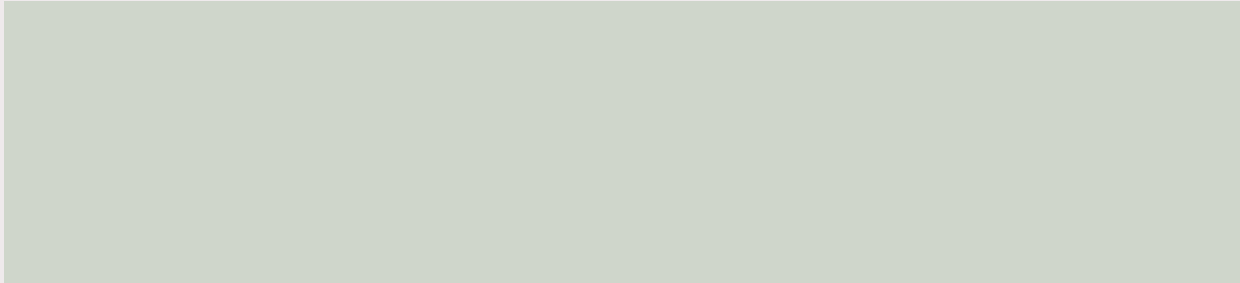
BAMBOOZLED
by Jesus
YVONNE ORJI
HOW GOD TRICKED ME
INTO THE LIFE OF MY DREAMS
YVONNE ORJI

Part V: The Bonus

Chapter 21: **Can't Wear a Crown with Your Head Down**

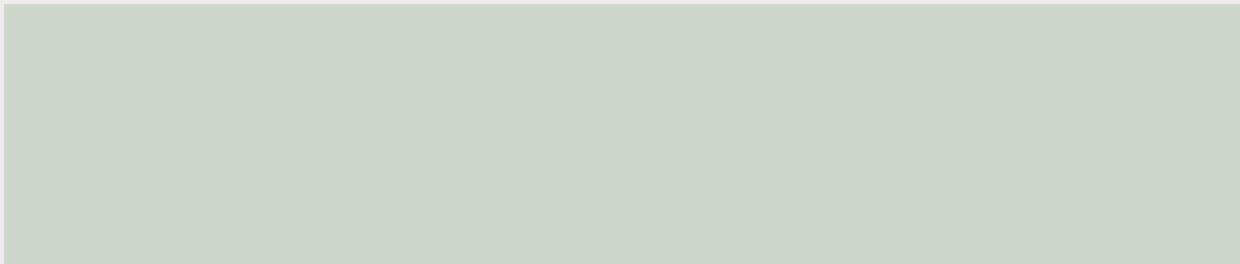
“Self-sabotage isn't a badge of honor. It isn't a noble act to be celebrated. It's a slow, sad, unforgiving death of peace and joy.”

- What are some ways you can start to choose yourself first?



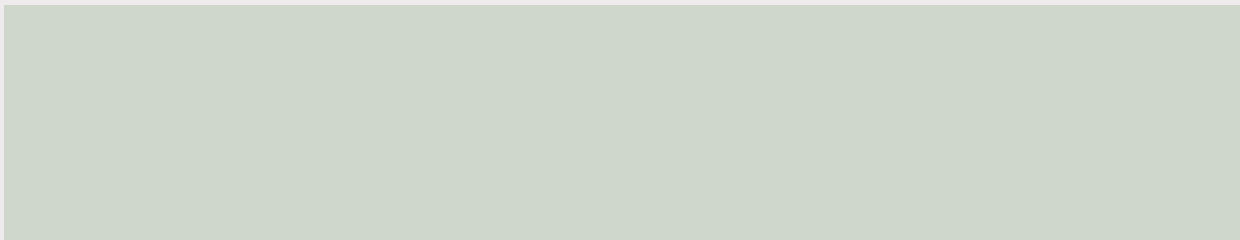
“Trying to be relatable to the masses is actually preventing you from being relevant to your purpose... Shrinking yourself for the benefit of others is played out.”

- In what ways do you shrink yourself to benefit others? What are your reasons for doing so? How can you begin to reverse this pattern?



“Proverbs says that your gift makes room for you. That means your talent creates avenues for you to reach greater heights.”

- How have you seen your gifts open you up to new opportunities and usher you into new spaces?”



Part V: The Bonus

Chapter 22: Your Haters Gon' Be Your Elevators

“Da Good Book knew the day would come when you’d have to deal with hateration, so God built-in a foolproof plan to help you withstand the attacks: Do nothing, but everything you’ve been doing. Dassit.”

- How easy or difficult is it for you to surrender your situation to God?

“Whether you know it or not, there’s someone who’s not happy with your success.”

- How are you prepared or preparing to deal with the negativity that may come your way, even when you’re doing nothing wrong?

“When the negative voices are too loud to ignore, you can regain control and protect your mental health by clearing out the things that don’t serve you.”

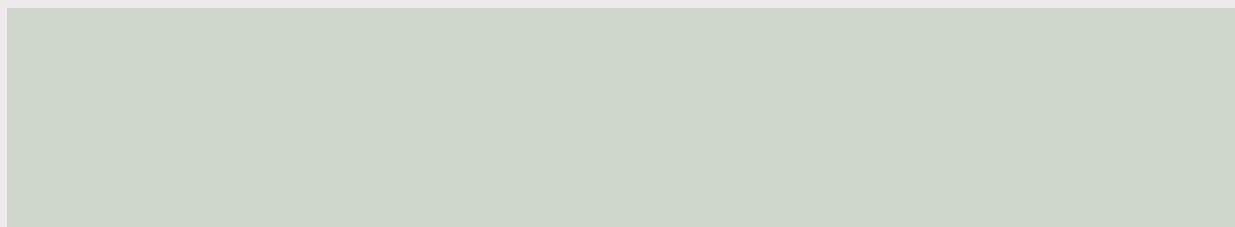
- What are some examples of things you could start to clear out?

Part V: The Bonus

Chapter 23: Here We Grow Again

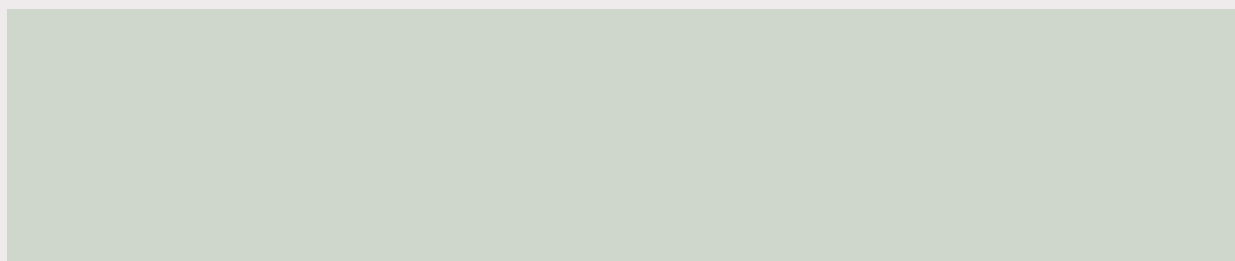
“Sure, it’s difficult to digest the unflattering things we uncover about ourselves, but everywhere you go, you take you along.”

- Change is difficult, but complacency is the enemy of success. What are you doing to achieve meaningful growth in your life?



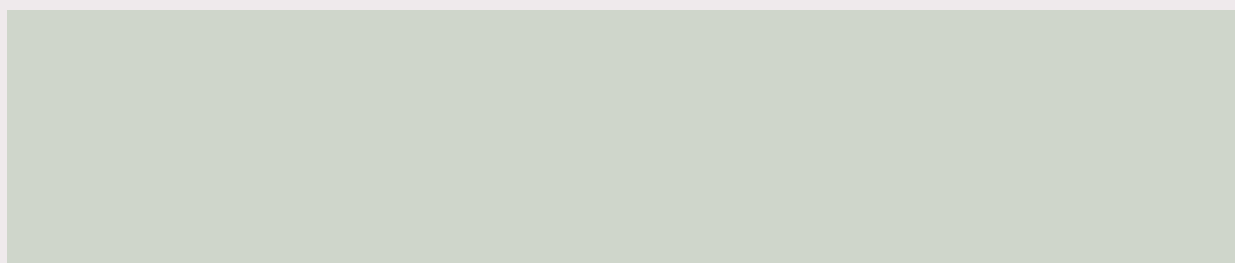
“Through my experiences, I’ve noticed four traits in particular that keep a lotta people from being their best selves: the stagnation of validation, the asinine of the co-sign, the blatancy of complacency, and the possessing of the blessing.”

- Do you relate to one or more of these traits? How so?



“Self-care isn’t just massages and facials—it’s feeding your soul and finding your joy. So be good to you.”

- “Write a list of all the things that bring you UTMOST joy.”



Part V: The Bonus

Chapter 24: Beyond the Bamboozlement



“Everywhere you go, you should give off a fragrance that points people to the goodness of God—and I’m not talkin’ what perfume you’re wearing. When I leave a room, I want an aura of joy to permeate the atmosphere.”

- What aura do you mostly give off? (Ex: heavy, joyful, calming, frazzled, etc. List all that apply.)

A large, empty light green rectangular area intended for the user to write their response to the question about their aura.

“You never know who might literally be dying to hear something nice today. So I’m officially starting the #GiveOneGetOne challenge. I dare you to go out of your way to compliment at least one person a day for the next month.”


- In anticipation of your personal #GiveOneGetOne, do you have any ideas on who you could encourage as you go about your day?

A large, empty light green rectangular area intended for the user to write their response to the question about the #GiveOneGetOne challenge.

Part V: Bamboozled Beliefs

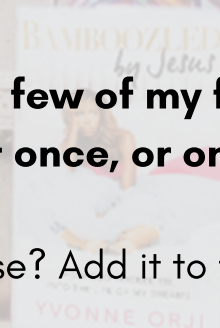
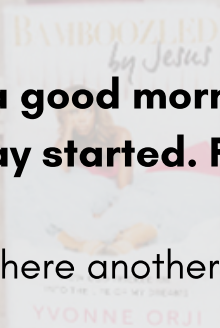
BAMBOOZLED BELIEF

Today's Mind Frame: "I believe that God will expose quickly, reveal suddenly, and remove swiftly anyone who does not have my best interest at heart."



"I love a good morning mantra, so here are a few of my faves to get your day started. Feel free to say them all at once, or once a day."

Is there another mantra you already love to use? Add it to the list!





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