



# THE MASTER ORCHESTRATOR

*H<sub>2</sub>O*  
A Unit of Oakton

In a symphony orchestra there may be up to 100 or more musicians playing various instruments but despite the size everything flows together in harmony. The orchestra size could make individual musicians feel their contributions may not make a difference, but the conductor knows the sound expected from each instrument and the part it plays in making the symphony work.

Life can be likened to a symphony orchestra where there are several parties whose contributions to our lives add to the totality of who we're meant to be and what we're to do according to God's agenda.

Looking at Jesus as a pattern we should follow, we know that He lived a very intentional life. As we take a closer look, we see that every step of the way there were critical people whose presence in and around His life played a crucial role to the success of His earthly ministry.

In thinking about these critical people our minds may immediately go to the 12 Apostles, but there were a multitude of people God networked into Jesus's life to enable Him fulfil His assignment.

This series we are taking a deep dive into looking at some of those key people, how their roles in the life of Jesus impacted His earthly ministry. We pray that it will give us an insight into how masterful God is at orchestrating people/networks; how intentional He is about fulfilling His word and how willing and capable He is to do the same for us as He did for Jesus as we commit to Him.

## Day 1

### The Messianic Prophets

'The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written...Then he began to speak to them. "The Scripture you've just heard has been fulfilled this very day!" Luke 4:17,21

During His earthly ministry, Jesus was very clear that His mission was to accomplish what had been written about Him in the Scriptures by prophets such as Isaiah, Jeremiah, etc. who had been given insight into the details surrounding His life and ministry thousands of years before He was born. These writings showed just how intentional and far thinking God is when it comes to His agenda. It also indicates that we can also gain insight concerning our lives and those in our care beyond even our own lifetime.

'Don't misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose.' Matthew 5:17

'Then I said, 'Look, I have come to do your will, O God— as is written about me in the Scriptures.'" Hebrews 10:7

Prophets like Isaiah foretold details right down to where Jesus would be born and where He would run His ministry. In the Psalms David wrote about the death and resurrection of Jesus (Psalm 16:8–11), Jeremiah wrote about the new covenant Jesus would usher in (Jer 31:31-34) and so much more. In documenting these prophecies, the writers may not necessarily have fully understood what they were writing, but they obeyed the promptings of the Holy Spirit to document what they were told by Him and these served as a guide to Jesus in fulfilling the prophecies concerning Him.

The writers of most of the New Testament books also served as pointers to who Jesus is, His assignment and how we are to relate with Him. Even though these writers lived at varying times in history and are long gone, they are still impacting us today thousands of years later. This is an indication that there are things the Lord may prompt us to say and/or do now that we may not fully understand but will significantly impact our generations to come.

**Prayer:** Lord help me to follow the promptings that will help me shape my generations to come and bring them into alignment with Your plans for their lives.

## Day 2

### The Announcers

“At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon... The Holy Spirit was upon him... That day the Spirit led him to the Temple. So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, Simeon was there. He took the child in his arms and praised God...” Luke 2:25, 27-28

“Anna, a prophet, was also there in the Temple... She came along just as Simeon was talking with Mary and Joseph, and she began praising God. She talked about the child to everyone who had been waiting expectantly for God to rescue Jerusalem.” Luke 2:36, 38

Joseph and Mary had take the baby Jesus to the temple to present Him to the Lord and to their surprise two separate people came to them to praise God for their child and speak about Him and what He would do. These may have appeared to be two unconnected incidents, but there are no coincidences with God. Simeon and Anna had both been expectantly praying for the messiah for years and the Holy Spirit orchestrated their steps to see Jesus at the same time.

“Jesus’ parents were amazed at what was being said about him.” Luke 2:33

Even though the conception of Jesus was supernatural, Jesus’ parents may not fully have understood the gravity and extent of what Jesus would accomplish so the Holy Spirit ensured Simeon and Anna brought this clarity. People saw a baby but Simeon and Anna saw the long awaited Saviour. God always keeps His promises.

Notice that Simeon spoke to Jesus’s parents while Anna spoke to others who were waiting for the messiah. There are people God has given insight into who we are in Him and what we’re to accomplish for His namesake. These people will not despise our early days but will continually speak forth God’s agenda until it manifests. God orchestrates situations such that He connects us to the caretakers and nurturers of what we carry and to those waiting for the solution we’re bringing.

**Prayer:** Lord show me my caretakers, those that You will use to process, hone and announce what You’ve deposited in me. When the time is right according to Your calendar, connect me to the people, industries, nations You’ve created me as a solution for.

## Day 3

### The Forerunners

“The prophet Isaiah was speaking about John when he said, “He is a voice shouting in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord’s coming! Clear the road for him!’” Matthew 3:3

There are people who the Lord sends ahead of us to announce, validate, and make the journey smoother for us which John the Baptist did for Jesus. John began his ministry before Jesus and was already very established, but he understood his assignment was to point people to Jesus and not to take any glory for himself.

“After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him.” Matthew 3:16

It was after being baptised by John that Jesus was catalysed the next stage of His ministry. God saw it fit for Jesus to go through this process rather than just commence ministry, which He could well have done. We need people in our lives who will not only announce us, but also take us through the processes that will stimulate our growth.

“So John’s disciples came to him and said, “Rabbi... everybody is going to him instead of coming to us.” John replied, “...I am filled with joy at his success. He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less.” John 3:26, 29 30

Remember John already had a thriving ministry, so his disciples may have expected Jesus to align to John rather than set up what seemed to be a competing ministry. But John understood there was no competition. He knew his assignment and made it clear to all that he was solidly behind Jesus. In God’s divine orchestration there’s never any competition as we all have our specific roles to play. It’s a lack of this understanding that brings envy and competition.

We all need forerunners, because their having gone ahead of us makes it easier for us to navigate our ministries, careers, businesses, etc. We must also understand where we are called to be forerunners for others so we don’t inadvertently hinder what God wants us to amplify in the lives of others.

**Prayer:** Lord show me my role in Your agenda. Help me identify my forerunners and show me where I’m to act in this capacity for others

## Day 4

### The Solution Seekers

'After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.'" Matthew 2:1-2

The men came from the east to Jerusalem because they had observed a peculiar star that so intrigued them that they followed it for about 2 years because they knew it would lead them to the king of the Jews. Interestingly the Jews in Jerusalem should ideally have been the ones to observe the star from a closer range, especially as they knew the details of the prophecies concerning Jesus. But the majority of people weren't looking for Him. It took "outsiders" to let them know something of significance was happening in their own country.

'Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home.'" Mark 6:4

The people closest to us may not always be able to see who we are and the solutions we carry. Not because they are bad people, but because proximity can bring a level of familiarity with it. Though His ministry was at a very active stage, Jesus couldn't do many miracles in His own hometown because people were familiar with Him, and the familiarity blinded them from seeing what He carried. Sometimes, it takes others who may not know us so well personally to see and value what God has placed in us. This doesn't in any way diminish our value, but it means we need specific people around us to help us understand who we are in Christ.

'The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, "Mighty hero, the Lord is with you!" ' Judges 6:12

When the angel met Gideon far from doing anything heroic, he was hiding, but the angel spoke to who Gideon was created to be, not his current circumstances. Likewise, the Magi knew that the baby they saw in a manger was a king and not just the child of a poor couple and so they brought gifts befitting a king. When your gifting is recognized and valued accordingly the rewards will follow.

**Prayer:** Lord cause what You have put in me to shine forth and let the right people seek what You have placed in me as a sought-after solution provider. me also not to take You and Your word for granted

## Day 5

### Burden Bearers

'Along the way, they came across a man named Simon, who was from Cyrene, and the soldiers forced him to carry Jesus' cross.' Matthew 27:32

When it was time for Jesus to be crucified, He had already been badly beaten to the point of weakness and didn't have the physical energy to carry the cross He was to be crucified on. It was at that point that Simon the Cyrene came by and was forced by the soldiers to carry Jesus' cross. Knowing how detailed and intentional the Lord is and how critical the crucifixion was to God's agenda, we can safely surmise that Simon the Cyrene wasn't there by chance because the Lord already knew help would be needed.

'From the half-tribe of Manasseh west of the Jordan, 18,000 men were designated by name to help David become king.' 1 Chronicles 12:31

'Tychicus will give you a full report about how I am getting along. He is a beloved brother and faithful helper who serves with me in the Lord's work.' Colossians 4:7

Being in alignment with God's plan for our lives doesn't mean we can or should do everything by ourselves. There will be times when we need help with carrying weights be it in ministry, business, family, career or other areas. With every assignment, the Lord has assigned specific people to partner with us to bring the vision to life and/or ease the burden of the weight so we don't get overwhelmed.

'One day soon afterward Jesus went up on a mountain to pray, and he prayed to God all night. At daybreak he called together all of his disciples and chose twelve of them to be apostles...' Luke 6:12-13

We see helpers in the life of Jesus who were with Him throughout His ministry years and right up to the end with Simon the Cyrene. We also see similar illustrations of helpers in the lives of David and Paul and many others in the Bible. But it's important we understand that not everyone in our lives is necessarily a helper, thus discernment is required to identify them. We know this is something Jesus prayed about as it was after praying all night that He selected the 12 apostles. What assignment do you have to complete? Ask the Lord to connect yo

**Prayer:** Lord connect me to those You have assigned to be my helpers and grant me the discernment to identify them so I can fulfil the assignments You've committed to me

## Day 6

### The Right Team

'One day soon afterward Jesus went up on a mountain to pray, and he prayed to God all night. At daybreak he called together all of his disciples and chose twelve of them to be apostles...' Luke 6:12-13

One of the things that characterized Jesus's ministry was structure. He knew He had a short time to achieve all that was required and as such He was very organized and had an effective system of discipleship. Even though had several disciples, He knew He needed to select a core team who would anchor the other disciples and create a structure to equip them with the tools they needed to succeed.

'You're going to wear yourself out—and the people, too. This job is too heavy a burden for you to handle all by yourself.' Exodus 18:18

'Then he sent them out to tell everyone about the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick.' Luke 9:2

'The Lord now chose seventy-two other disciples and sent them ahead in pairs to all the towns and places he planned to visit.' Luke 10:1

Jesus understood His ministry was meant to outlive Him, so it was important not only to have the right people but to also ensure they were equipped with the necessary authority and experience to continue the assignment once He was no longer with them. This is why He intentionally dedicated time to consistently teaching the disciples the principles of the Kingdom of God. He also created structures to give them practical experiences by involving them in His activities and having advance party go ahead of Him to the places He planned to visit.

We know this system worked because we see the disciples replicating this structure in their own ministries as they expanded from city to city. Looking at Jesus's example helps us reflect on the structures we have or are putting in place in our assignments to support continuity beyond our direct involvement.

**Prayer:** Lord I recognize I'm not meant to do everything myself. Show me the right team for the different areas of my life. Teach me how to develop them so they can be a strong and effective support structure for me and all You have called me to do and be.



## Day 7

### Pointers for Precision

'He replied, "As soon as you enter Jerusalem, a man carrying a pitcher of water will meet you. Follow him..." Luke 22:10

One of the patterns we see with Jesus is that there were often people around His ministry that the Lord used as markers for precision: meaning their presence was a critical indication of alignment with His agenda. For instance in the verse above, the disciples wanted to know Jesus's plan for preparing the Passover meal and rather than give a specific address, Jesus gave them a human pointer they were to follow to help them know that they were on the right track.

'When you leave me today, you will see two men beside Rachel's tomb at Zelzah...When you get to the oak of Tabor, you will see three men coming toward you who are on their way to worship God at Bethel... When you arrive at Gibeah of God... you will meet a band of prophets coming down from the place of worship...' 1 Samuel 10:2-3,5

"Go and live in the village of Zarephath... I have instructed a widow there to feed you"... As he arrived at the gates of the village, he saw a widow gathering sticks...' 1 Kings 17:9-10

The Lord always works with and through people, so there are no coincidences or chance encounters when we are aligned with His agenda. When Saul was anointed king, Samuel told him about several sets of people he would encounter so he would have confirmation that it was really God at work. Likewise, when it was time for Elijah to leave the brook, the Lord sent an instruction ahead to the widow to feed him whom he encountered as he arrived at Zarephath.

Aligning with the Lord's agenda means there will be several people interactions the Holy Spirit will orchestrate to help us fulfil our assignments, which also means walking with Him requires a high level of sensitivity as no one is insignificant. Some people may simply be assigned to connect us to others in a given season, but if we are dismissive of people, we may be short circuiting what the Lord wants to achieve.

**Prayer:** Lord order my steps and grant me a heightened level of sensitivity to You so I can identify those You would have me connect with (or avoid) and their roles in fulfilling my assignment.

## Day 8

### God's Timeless Agenda

'You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.' Psalms 139:16

'Then I said, "Look, I have come. As is written about me in the Scriptures: I take joy in doing your will, my God, for your instructions are written on my heart.'" Psalms 40:7-8

Jesus fulfilled His divine mandate and all that the scriptures had said about Him from conception to resurrection. Interestingly everything was planned out in great detail long before any of the people who spoke about Him were even born. God is never confused about His plans for us, He articulated and orchestrated everything long before we were born.

'I know, Lord, that our lives are not our own. We are not able to plan our own course.' Jeremiah 10:23

'For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.' Jeremiah 29:11

God has a preferred path for us to follow which aligns with all the connections He has already pre-orchestrated as part of His bigger picture plan. But he always gives us the option to walk along this path or not. Thank God that in His mercy He gives us opportunities to realign, but the choice to do so always remains with us.

'I hear the Lord saying, "I will stay close to you, instructing and guiding you along the pathway for your life. I will advise you along the way and lead you forth with my eyes as your guide. So don't make it difficult; don't be stubborn when I take you where you've not been before. Don't make me tug you and pull you along. Just come with me!" Psalms 32:8-9 TPT

There are many wonderful things ahead of us as we walk in a trusting relationship with the Lord, allowing Him to lead us even when we may not fully understand where we're going. We can trust that so long as He's the one in charge, all things will work out for good.

**Prayer:** Lord thank You for showing me through the life of Jesus just how intentional and detailed You are. I know You have a plan for me and even though I may not always understand, I choose to trust and align with You. I thank You because I know as I do so You make all things work together for good.

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