

Connect

Connect with God's Purpose

October 4, 2020 / Chris Johnson

Purpose means: the _____ for which something is done or created, or for which something _____.

¹ As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

Ephesians 2:1-3, NIV

My purpose is not to go back to the “It’s all about _____” way I lived _____ God rescued me.

⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,

⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved.

Ephesians 2:4-5, NIV

My purpose is driven by my new _____ in Christ.

⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. **Ephesians 2:6-7, NIV**

My purpose is driven by my _____ with Christ.

⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – ⁹ not by works, so that no

one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:8-10, NIV

We are God’s _____ masterpiece, uniquely designed to _____ His _____.

⁴⁵ For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. **Mark 10:45, NIV**

³¹ Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31, NIV

My life has _____ and _____ as I use my _____ to God’s glory.

MEMORY VERSE

¹⁰ For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10, NIV

My next step: I will remember that I am God’s handmade masterpiece and I will seek to use my abilities to His glory.

What’s your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.

Impact Groups

Connect: Connect with God's Purpose

Getting Started: Tell about a time in your life when you felt especially fulfilled and satisfied.

Going back to Sunday

What truth from Sunday's message was most impactful for you? How has the truth made a difference in your thinking, your emotions, or your words and actions this week?

Read Ephesians 2:1-3

¹ As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

How does the devil, the world and the sinful flesh influence the way people think about purpose?

Read Ephesians 2:4-5

⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved.

We were dead in sin, but God made us alive. We have received a new identity with Christ by faith in Him. God's reason to do this was because He loves us. How does that change your view of yourself? How does that change your view of others?

Read Ephesians 2:6-7

⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

God wants us to live with eternity in mind. How does this affect our purpose?

Read Ephesians 2:8-10

⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

God has a meaningful, fulfilling and hand-picked purpose in mind for each of us. Do you know what that purpose is for you? How can you best live that purpose out in your life?

My Next Step

A great way to become clearer on your purpose is to take the SHAPE assessment at www.freeshapetest.com and discuss it with a Christian friend or pastor. Christian Essentials 3 is another great way to discover your abilities and purpose.

Doing Life Together

Bring your SHAPE assessment results to group next time and share one thing that helped you become clearer on how you want to serve God and others.

Prayer

Pray together as a group for about 10 minutes. Many groups do this in a circle format, allowing each person in the circle to pray or pass as they wish until all have had a chance to pray.

Reminders

CWLK Kids will be re-opening for Kindergarten through 5th grade at 9am on October 11th. Spread the word to your family and friends with kids!

Fall Outreach at CrossWalk: Check the Church Center App.

- October: Costume & Trunk contest via social media (more details to come)
- October 17: St. Mary's Emergency Food Box Packing
- November: Feed a Family (more details to come)