

"What On Earth Am I Here For?"

40 Days of Purpose: Week 1

St. Andrew's Anglican Church * April 17, 2005

Eph. 2:10 (GN) "God is our Maker, and in our union with Christ, he has created us for a life of good works, which he has already prepared for us to do."

Three Levels of Living:

1) Survival 2) Success 3) SIGNIFICANCE

"David served God's purpose in his generation." Acts 13:36

(Paul) "I reckon my own life to be worth nothing to me, in order that I may complete my mission and finish the work the Lord Jesus gave me to do..." Acts 20:24 (GN)

The Benefits of a Purpose-Driven Life:

1. It will reduce FRUSTRATION.

"a doubtful mind is unsettled as a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind." James 1:6-7 (LB)

"I've labored to no purpose. I've spent my strength in vain and for nothing." Isaiah 49:4 (NIV)

You, LORD, give perfect peace to those who keep their purpose firm... Isaiah 26:3 (GN)

2. It will increase my JOY

"My life drags by -- day after hopeless day... I'm tired of living ... my life makes no sense." Job 7:6, 17 (LB/GN)

Through (Jesus Christ) we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. Romans 5:2 (RSV)

"God is able to do far more than we would ever dare to ask or even dream of - infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes." Ephesians 3:20 (LB)

3. It will allow CONCENTRATION.

(Paul) I decided to concentrate only on Jesus Christ and his death on the cross. 1 Cor.2:2

"Pay close attention to how you live...Make good use of every opportunity you get... find out what the Lord wants you to do." Ephesians 5:15-17 (GN)

4. It will attract COOPERATION.

"If your goals are good, you will be respected." Proverbs 11:27 (GN)

"Tell us how to proceed in settings things straight, and we will fully cooperate." Ezra 10:4 (LB)

5. It will prepare me for ETERNITY.

We will all stand before God to be judged...So each of us will have to answer to God. Romans 14:10, 12 (NCV)

How to Get Started:

I find my purpose by getting KNOW God.

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Gen 1:1 (NIV)

"For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible...everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him." Col 1:16 (Msg)

"It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for... part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone." Eph. 1:11 (Msg)

"It makes no difference who you are or where you're from—if you want God and are ready to do as he says, the door is open." Acts 10:35 (Msg)

Translation key: NIV = New International Version; LB = Living Bible; NLT = New Living Translation; NASB = New American Standard Bible; NCV = New Century Version; TEV = Today's English Version; RSV = Revised Std. Version; NEB = New English Bible; GN = Good News Bible; Msg = The Message

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