



BIBLICAL PURPOSE

UNDERSTANDING OUR GOD-GIVEN PURPOSE

Purpose is the reason something exists or was created. It is the reason we act or choose not to act and encompasses intentions and objectives.

BIBLICAL PURPOSE aligns us with God, revealing who we are, why we're here, and why we were created. Discovering our Biblical purpose takes a little bit of time and breathing space. More of an exploration than an exercise, this discovery is also a shedding of our culturally-defined purpose to reveal our eternal purpose. There are no right or wrong answers, no comparisons, and no rankings. *Holy Purpose is woven into the fibers of our souls by the One with a plan and a purpose for every atom of creation.*

- Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. (Ecclesiastes 12:13b)
- So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. (1 Corinthians 10:31)
- Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! (Psalm 150:6)
- "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. The second is like it, "Love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37-39)
- But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:44-45)
- Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)
- He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)

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A PLACE TO BEGIN

Biblical Purpose Statements are unique descriptions of who we are in Christ. We all share the same goal – to love and follow Jesus, yet way each of us does that will look a little different.

Remember these faith touch-points as you write:

- Love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength
- Love others as you love yourself
- Pray continually
- Be joyful always
- Give thanks in all things
- Keep God's commands
- Praise Him
- Do everything for His glory

STEP ONE

Take some time today to think beyond illness and its impact on your life. Give yourself permission to remember, dream, and hope, and when you're ready, begin to list:

- scripture verses that give your life focus or direction
- the things you care about and are interested in
- your passions and what makes your heart sing
- words and phrases that positively describe you
- ways you enjoy serving
- the dream, hope, vision, or calling God has placed in your heart

STEP TWO

- Reread your lists. Circle or highlight the most important words or phrases.
- Prioritize or group those words into bullet points or phrases.
- Slowly work toward a few easy-to-remember bullet points or a single sentence.

Is your Purpose Statement beginning to reflect who you are in Christ? Who He created and is calling you to be?

Like living stones, let yourselves be assembled into a spiritual house, a holy order of priests who offer up spiritual sacrifices that will be acceptable to God through Jesus the Anointed.

(1 Peter 2:5)

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