

PURPOSE IN THE WORLD

GROUP STUDY

- *Watch the video together.*
- *Break into gender groups. It's best to keep discussion group size to no more than 4-5 people.*
- *Take turns reading the paragraphs below out loud as a group.*
- *Stop after each paragraph to discuss answers to each question.*

The number one question we all ask is, "What is the meaning of life? Why am I here?" So many people live their lives with no sense of purpose or meaning. Instead, they drift through life unfulfilled going from job to job and relationship to relationship looking for purpose, value, and worth. Just about the time they seem to find it, it seems to slip right through their hands. That's not God's desire or design for our lives. He doesn't want anyone to drift through life unfulfilled. God has a purpose & plan for every person's life.

How has God helped you find purpose and meaning in your life?

You matter to God. Psalm 139:6 says, "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." Our identity is not found in the things we do or accomplish. Our identity is found in Christ alone. It's in Jesus that we find the acceptance, approval, and affirmation we all desire. It's in Him that we discover the life we were truly meant to live. When we look to God, He will begin to unlock the purposes and plans He has for our lives. You were created on purpose for a purpose.

How do you keep your identity rooted in Christ and not in what you do or accomplish?

Our fourth Core Value: "Purpose in the world is found in Jesus." God created each of us with a primary purpose and a personal purpose. God's primary purpose is the same for every person. We are all created to take the hope, healing, peace, and purpose of Jesus into our world. But we also have a personal purpose. Your personal purpose involves your work, school, family, and the community where God has placed you. God has given each of us unique gifts, abilities, personality, and life experiences to fulfill our primary and personal purpose in this world.

How have you seen God use you to fulfill His primary or personal purpose in your life?

- *You can discover your purpose by taking the Core Purpose assessment at corechurch.com/purpose*

CORE PRACTICE

One of the ways we find “purpose in the world” is through the Core Practice of Generous Giving.

As followers of Jesus, we are called to be generous with our finances. We model generosity to our world. No one should outgive the people of God. Everything we have is a blessing from God and belongs to God. We believe Generous Giving is radical living. What the world calls foolish, God calls genius. Giving isn't an obligation, it's an opportunity. An opportunity to be a blessing and grow in our faith and trust of God.

Here are some helpful guidelines when it comes to generosity:

- Pray and ask God to give you a heart of generosity.
- Look for opportunities to give to those around you.
- Begin giving 10%. If you are unable to give 10%, pick a percentage and begin working towards 10%.

Which of these generosity guidelines is easier for you? Which one is the most difficult? Why?

CORE PRACTICE

Another way we “find purpose in the world” is through the Core Practice of Sacrificial Serving.

We believe Sacrificial Serving isn't something we do, it's who we are. It's daily showing the love of Jesus to someone in a tangible way. Sacrificial Serving is a call to die to my plans and my desires and live for Christ's plans and desires. It's through Sacrificial Serving that we model the life of Jesus and display the love of Christ to our broken world.

We can serve the church by being a part of the Host Team, Production Team, Office Team, Prayer Team, Small Group Leader, Core Kids, Core Youth, Facility Team or Special Events.

Which team do you serve on or are interested in serving on? How has this impacted people's lives?

We can serve the community by helping a neighbor with a project, taking a meal to someone in need, giving a coworker a ride to work, feeding the homeless, fostering a child, or volunteering for a local charity.

Who have you served in the community? How has this impacted people's lives?

PERSONAL STUDY

- ***This week look for opportunities to generously give or sacrificially serve others.***
- ***This week complete the Daily Devotions on page 17.***
- ***This week complete the “Growth Goals” (pp. 19-20).***

PURPOSE IN THE WORLD

DEVOTIONAL

Use this devotional to reinforce the study you've taken part in. As you read the following passages ask God to meet with you. Read the passage. Reflect on what it says and what God could be saying through it. Finally, respond to what you've read. We encourage you to write down some of the things that God speaks to you about.

MONDAY – CORE VALUE: PURPOSE IN THE WORLD

READ

Isaiah 55:8-11. Additional scripture: Psalm 138:8, Jeremiah 29:11-13

REFLECT

God's purpose for us is rooted in His presence. He didn't just create us to drift through life. He formed us to walk in step with Him. Our purpose isn't something we invent, it's something we discover by seeking the One who created us. He promises to be found when we seek Him with all our heart. Are you seeking God's purpose for your life, or just hoping to stumble upon it? What is one way you can seek God for purpose?

RESPOND

TUESDAY – CORE PRACTICE: GENEROUS GIVING

READ

Proverbs 11:24-25. Additional scripture: Matthew 6:19-21, Luke 12:31

REFLECT

Generosity positions our hearts to trust God more deeply. When we open our hands, we create space for God to pour into our lives and into others through us. Giving isn't just about money. It's about living open-hearted and open-handed. It's a reminder that everything we have is a gift from God. What do you need to let go of in order to give more freely?

RESPOND

WEDNESDAY – CORE PRACTICE: GENEROUS GIVING

READ

Luke 12:32-34. Additional scripture: Matthew 10:42, 1 Timothy 6:17-19

REFLECT

Jesus reminds us that it's the Father's good pleasure to give us the Kingdom. That means we can give confidently, knowing God is not holding out on us. When we give generously, we demonstrate our security in God's promises rather than our possessions. What treasure are you storing up and what does it say about what you value?

RESPOND

THURSDAY – CORE PRACTICE: SACRIFICIAL SERVING

READ

Romans 12:11-13. Additional scripture: John 13:12-17, Galatians 5:13-14

REFLECT

Sacrificial service isn't just about what we do, it's how we do it. When we serve with genuine love, putting others ahead of ourselves, we reflect the heart of Jesus. Service becomes worship when it's rooted in love, not obligation. Serving like Jesus often means going beyond our comfort zone. Where is God calling you to serve even when it costs you?

RESPOND

FRIDAY – CORE PRACTICE: SACRIFICIAL SERVING

READ

Mark 9:35. Additional scripture: Philippians 2:3-4, 1 Peter 4:10

REFLECT

Greatness in the Kingdom of God looks different than greatness in the world. It's not about titles or recognition, but about humility, love, and service. When we take the lowest position to lift others up, we're living like Jesus. The more we serve, the more we understand God's heart. How does serving others change what success looks like to you?

RESPOND

SATURDAY – CORE VALUE: PURPOSE IN THE WORLD

READ

Isaiah 58:6-7. Additional scripture: Micah 6:8, Matthew 5:14-16

REFLECT

Your life has the potential to bring light into dark places. God wants to use you to do more than just attend church. He wants you to be the church. When you live out your purpose, others see God through you. Living with intention is how we shine Christ's light in our daily routines. How can your ordinary life become a light that points people to Jesus?

RESPOND

SUNDAY – CORE PRACTICE: SUNDAY WORSHIP

Gather with others today to worship and grow in the Scriptures.