



# Agenda (Series)

16th July 2023

# Introductory Message: Finding God's Purpose for Your Life

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Main Text: Jeremiah 29: 11

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." (KJV)

" I know what I'm doing. I have it all planned out - plans to take care of you, not abandon you, plans to give you the future you hope for." ( MSG )

### INTRODUCTION

Our existence is not by accident but it is because of the divine plans of God. No matter your present condition or location, it is all due to the purpose of God for you. Nothing is a mistake.

Romans 8: 28

"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose." ( NKJV )

Even when it seems as if your life is being delayed, know that the 'delay' is nothing but a design for the purpose God has in mind for you. Many people desire greatness in life without making attempt to understand the reason why God wants them to be great. Therefore, it is important that you discover the reason why you exist - PURPOSE. The destiny (life) of a man is only preserved in purpose.

"The greatest tragedy that can happen to a man is not death but dying without purpose."

<u>QUESTIONS AROUND PURPOSE</u>: Five questions you must ask yourself in the journey of purpose.

1. "Who am I?" - The question of identity (Matthew 16: 13 - 17)

In the scripture above, Jesus asked His disciples the same question regarding His identity. Initially, they gave responses based on what the people has been saying about Jesus. However, Jesus asked again and Simon Peter's answer gave insight.

#### Matthew 16: 16-17

Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven." (NKJV)

Identity is revealed only by the Spirit of God not by circumstances that surround you, not even the name people call you. Discovering your identity is a deliberate process that no one will do for you except yourself.

# 2. "Where am I from?" - The question of source/origin

### John 8: 23.

And He said to them, "You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. ( NKJV )

This was Jesus's response to the Jewish leaders when they questioned His source. Likewise in answering this question, you must know what your source is and where your source is. It is not defined by the cultural (e.g tribe) or territorial capacity (e.g nationality) of your origin because these things limit the expanse of your purpose.

"Our source is from the Creator (God) because what we produce is a matter of source"

## 3. "What am I here for?" - The question of purpose

### John 18:.37

Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause, I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." (NKJV)

Jesus stated His purpose explicitly without tagging it with any religious activities. Another example you should look at is Esther when Mordecai told her about the plan of Haman to destroy the Jews, he said, " If you persist in staying silent at a time like this, help and deliverance will arrive for the Jews from someplace else, but you and your family will be wiped out. Who knows? Maybe you were made queen for just such a time as this."

He explained the place of purpose in the position Esther held. Whatever position you hold or profession that do in this life, know that these are not the main purpose for your life. They are just platforms God uses to execute His plans for you. Never mistake platforms as the main purpose of God for your life. .

" God gives both the platform and the purpose."

# 4. " What can I do?" - Question of potential.

When we consider this question of potential, I want you to remember the story of Moses and his rod. He had this rod with him at all times but he didn't know what it can do until God revealed his eyes and taught him how to use it. Then after, you remember the way his rod became a tool that demonstrated God's power in various ways.

You should also come to the understanding that you have something inside you to put to work to fulfil God's purpose irrespective of your age .Search inward for potential. But in addition, ask yourself, "What can you give?". What is that solution or value you can provide for people around you. When you answer these questions, it will groom your potential more and make it ever flowing.

### 5. "Where am I going?" - The question of destiny/ destination

### Philippians 3.13 - 14

Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ( NKJV)

You have to know your goal in life to ascertain your purpose.

"Your purpose is not realized until you know where you are going."

### THINGS THAT AFFECT PURPOSE

#### 1. Sin:

It doesn't only affect you but the purpose of God for your life. Remember Samson made sin normal by going against all rules that made him a Nazarene and he missed his purpose even though he started well.

"Purpose is so powerful that if you miss out on it, the grace will be far reached to get it back."

### 2. Disobedience

Each disobedience to the divine call of purpose will make you a step farther from victory/destination. Everything around you is at cost when it comes to disobedience.

### .3 Procastination

Delaying God's purpose for your life means the fulfilment of your destiny will be lost.

"A life without purpose is a meaningless life."